**Subject:** COVID-19 Update - July 30 **Sent:** Thursday, July 30, 2020 8:13 PM

From: Bo Boulenger

To: DG-BHSF Everyone; DG-BT Everyone Automated; BRRH Everyone; BRRH-BocaCare All

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Across our organization, we continue to focus on the daily needs of our patients, employees and physicians. Navigating the challenges to fulfill our mission during this pandemic has been a Herculean effort, and because of everyone's dedication we are answering the call of our community. We are doing the work of heroes, but as humans we all need each other's help to get through this extraordinarily challenging and emotional time. We continue to bring in additional clinical staff to provide our caregivers with much needed support.

Currently, there are 650 COVID-positive or suspected COVID-positive patients at our hospitals. That number has been decreasing over the past week, and we are cautiously optimistic about that trend. We continue to safely discharge many patients every day, and through the Masimo Continuous Remote Monitoring program our eICU nurses are currently monitoring more than 100 patients recovering at home.

Following are this week's updates:

### **Tropical Storm Isaias**

We are monitoring Tropical Storm Isaias, which is expected to bring strong winds and heavy rainfall this weekend. We will send updates as needed. Please take the opportunity to review your family's severe weather plan. Also, please make sure your emergency contact information is up to date in PeopleSoft.

### **Automated Temperature Screening**

In order to streamline the screening process at our entry points, we are deploying automated non-contact temperature screening devices throughout the system this week. These devices are part of the initial check at entry points to identify individuals who may have elevated temperatures. Safety is top of mind, and this is part of our enhanced safety practices to protect our employees and patients.

## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

It is imperative that we continue to use all PPE according to CDC and BHSF guidelines. Based on the experience of the last four months, which includes our lower infection rate and antibody rate in our tested employees, we know that these guidelines that include the use of BHSF-supplied PPE only, are effective in protecting employees and patients while helping to optimize our PPE supplies. We continue to follow CDC's guidelines for selecting protective devices that are supported by scientific evidence and national and international standards, test methods and specifications.

## **Results Notification Update**

This week, we expanded our notification process for COVID-19 test results to include patients with both negative and positive test results. This process, which notifies patients by text message when their results are ready, now includes our patients tested at outpatient locations (including hospital emergency rooms) in Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties.

# **Public Service Campaign**

Ten hospital systems throughout Miami-Dade and Broward counties have joined forces on a community-wide public service campaign to help stop the spread of COVID-19 in our area, which continues to lead the state in the number of positive cases. These hospital systems — Baptist Health, Broward Health, Cleveland Clinic Florida, HCA East Florida, Jackson Health System, Memorial Healthcare System, Mount Sinai Medical Center, Nicklaus Children's Health System, Tenet Health, and University of Miami Health System — have united to amplify an important message to the public: "Together we are stronger. And together we can make a difference."

The integrated marketing campaign, which launched this week, includes TV commercials, newspaper and magazine ads, radio spots, social media posts, digital, and public relations, which will penetrate the South Florida market with messages about the importance of hand washing, mask wearing, and social distancing. Information on where to get the appropriate care for COVID-19 symptoms – a virtual health visit, an urgent care center, or a hospital emergency room – is also included.

#### **Human Resources Updates**

Please see the attached document, which includes important reminders and resources for employees.

### **Video Message for Employees**

Every day, our Board members, leadership team and community are filled with appreciation and awe over what our employees do on a daily basis. We could not be more proud of our incredible team. I would like to convey our appreciation through a video message, which you can view <a href="here">here</a>.

Thank you,

#### **Bo Boulenger**

**Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer** 

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