

**Subject:** COVID-19 Update – October 29

**Sent:** Thursday, October 29, 2020 5:27 PM

**From:** Bo Boulenger

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are still seeing COVID-19 cases rise across the country, and we are beginning to see that occur in our community as well. We are watching these upticks closely, as we expect this increase to continue over the next few weeks. How high those numbers will go is to be determined, but this is the time for us to hold the line and make sure we are ready to care for our community should we experience a significant increase. We are even more prepared and experienced today after going through the last two surges and learning lessons that will continue to help us navigate this pandemic.

Currently, we are caring for 148 patients who are either positive for COVID-19 or are under investigation. That is a 14% increase from seven days ago, and a 16% increase from two weeks ago. We are seeing high numbers of patients seeking testing at our Urgent Care Centers.

#### **PPE**

Our Supply Chain team and PPE Taskforce continues to ensure we have a sufficient supply of proper PPE. As the number of COVID-19 cases go up, it is imperative that we continue to use these supplies judiciously in order to maximize our supply.

#### **Cyber threats**

In response to a notification about a cyber threat intended to disrupt information systems at healthcare organizations across the U.S., our IT Security department has taken multiple proactive measures to safeguard Baptist Health's systems and data. One of those precautions is blocking specific file sharing sites that are being used to host and deploy malicious files used for ransomware. These sites include: Docs.Google.com and Drive.Google.com, Basecamp.com, JetBrains.com, Trello.com, Slack.com, and Yougile.com. You will also not be able to access your personal email from the Baptist Health network at this time.

As a precautionary measure, please consult with your leadership on any downtime preparations that might be necessary.

Please be vigilant online. Do not click on links or attachments contained in emails marked [External]. Do not open any email attachments you were not expecting to receive. Never enter your username and password when prompted by a link within an external email. If the external email contains suspicious links, attachments, or prompts for passwords, forward it to [SuspiciousMail@baptisthealth.net](mailto:SuspiciousMail@baptisthealth.net) right away. To report any concerns, call the IT Rapid Response Center at 786-527-8977.

We will keep you informed with any new developments.

#### **Respiratory Care Week**

Respiratory Care Week is October 25-31. Please join me in celebrating the skill and dedication of our respiratory care professionals and the vital role they play at Baptist Health every day and especially now as they serve on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic. Their expertise in helping our patients with

respiratory issues breathe easier is vital to our overall healthcare delivery, and we are very appreciative for everything they do.

### **Coming soon: a new way to connect**

Pineapple Connect, our new intranet, will launch on November 9. The new mobile-friendly site is being designed to keep us all connected with the information and tools you need to do your job, and timely content to keep you in the loop about what's happening around Baptist Health. You'll be able to see all updates related to COVID-19, updates from your entity leadership, videos, news and more. Watch for more information about this exciting new avenue for internal communication.

I want to assure everyone that as Baptist Health remains ready for a probable COVID-19 surge, we continue to focus on the care of our entire community. Our smart growth has continued over the past few months with our recent openings across South Florida, which include a new Urgent Care center in West Boca, the new facility in Downtown Doral and the new freestanding Emergency Care center in West Miami; as well as the upcoming opening of the Broward Integrated Care Center in Plantation. Our communities have more convenient access to care, and our commitment to delivering safe, high-quality care is unwavering. It is important for our community to know that there are many safe options available for emergency and urgent care, and they should never be delaying care. We remain ready to care for them at our facilities.

Thank you for everything you do on a daily basis.

Bo

### **Bo Boulenger**

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