



Oneida Health
exceptional care... always

September 24, 2021

Dear Fellow Employees,

There is not much new to report this morning other than we remain busy in regards to the number of admissions we have that require care. The ED has been struggling with keeping open while managing a number of admissions until bed availability opens up in the ICU and on the 4th floor.

Due to increased demand for services, we have decided to offer double time for any patient facing staff who are available to work overtime. We are also evaluating how to recognize staff other than the double overtime in regards to all of the wonderful things that are taking place throughout our organization. More to come on that within the next few days. We understand how challenging this has been and understand that some form of recognition is necessary.

The vaccine mandate deadline still looms and is September 27th at 11:59pm. This would mean that unvaccinated staff without an exemption will no longer be able to work in the hospital or nursing home setting. There is a vaccine clinic taking place today and we will have another on Monday so please consider receiving the vaccine to not only preserve your job but to allow us to continue to care for our community members. I have attached to today's update a flyer from the DOH entitled "Top 10 Reasons to Get Vaccinated Against COVID 19." Again, as I have stated in other updates, feel free to share the attached with your friends and family.

I want all of our staff to know that we in leadership positions are doing all we can to ease the burden. We will continue to do so as long as this increased demand continues. We are evaluating whether there is a necessity to discontinue elective procedures for a period of time referred to as a "pause" in elective procedures. At this time, because the majority of our elective procedures are outpatients, we have opted to continue them. Depending on what happens after Monday's deadline, we will look at that option again.

Thank you all for continuing to make Oneida Health work well for those that we are here to serve.

With Sincerest Gratitude,

Gene F. Morreale