Dear Phelps Team,

All of you are probably aware that Phelps has seen a recent increase in the number of COVID positive patients in the hospital.

Currently, we have 14 positive patients; 3 are in the ICU, 1 is on a ventilator; 8 are on Medicine -5North and the remainder are on Telemetry. This number may have changed by the time you read this email.

The thing that will not change is the hospital Administration's presence and support of all of our staff and patients as time goes on.

We have been through this before and with the same approach, we can get through this again. Teamwork, compassion and resilience are our hallmarks. We have learned a great deal from our previous surge and although we did a very good job in managing the situation then, we are even better prepared for whatever the future brings.

While we may experience more of a surge than we are currently facing, we believe the number of patients and severity will not reach the levels we saw in March, April and May.

One of the things the leadership team is committed to doing is sending daily reports regarding the total COVID census and the distribution of those patients, information we believe will help allay anxiety of the unknown.

We have, as of today, Nov. 9th, restricted visitation on the 5th floor. Visitation guidelines and protocols also fluctuate regularly and we will communicate any changes in our policies during our daily COVID updates.

Some of the things you can do to mitigate spread:

- Wear your PPE appropriately (re-education of staff by the Infection Prevention Team will take place).
- WASH YOUR HANDS!
- Monitor yourself for symptoms, including fever, twice a day. Report to EHS any positive symptoms you have.
- Complete the daily 13 question COVID screening before you report to work at the hospital.

We are confident that our precautionary measures minimize the risk to staff and other patients. If you have any questions or need additional information or guidance, please reach out to your department leadership.

Above all, know that your team in Administration is ALWAYS here to support you.

Eileen

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