

Residents who Feel Sick

Any resident who feels ill especially respiratory symptoms and fever. Contact myself and the chief/director on call. We will screen for risk and discuss next steps. Any one who is exhibiting symptoms should self quarantine as per CDC guidelines. Of course anyone with severe symptoms, concerns or co-morbidities should come to the ED. In terms of when residents can return to work that will be a case by case determination with possible Employee Health involvement. A big part of this will be monitoring your temperature so if you don't have a thermometer you should get one.

Quarantine

As more positive testing comes through there may be mandated quarantine. The information I am getting as of now from Employee Health at UHB and KCH is that a 14 day quarantine from date of exposure regardless of symptoms or COVID testing.

Testing

KCH has opened a testing area where the Obs unit is located. The intake is through a tent in front of the C building entrance. This is available for the public and patients will start to be siphoned from the ED. It is also available for employees. As of now they would like employees to coordinate through employee health- 718-245-3536. If you have difficulty getting through let me know.

As of now the algorithm for testing includes if you have symptoms or have a high risk contact. No one who is asymptomatic will be tested.

PPE

In discussion with admin on both sides of the street. We are now following the updated criteria from the CDC in that N95s should only be used in high risk procedures not including NP swabbing. That is not to say you can't wear a n95 but be aware that supply is already low. So ideally using surgical masks regularly should be the norm. If anyone has issues getting PPE contact me in real time.

Off Service Rotations

As of now Toxicology, Airway and Ultrasound (not GYN sono) have been canceled. Toxicology and Airway due to those sites shutting down and Ultrasound due to lack of attending supervision. All residents on these rotations will be added to Surge Call for now. This will include covering residents who are ill, quarantined or scheduled when volume increases.

Conference

Conference will be on this Wednesday. Ronnie will send out details. As emailed before any resident who is scheduled work, post overnight should come otherwise you can all join us virtually. I think it will be important to have some didactics and community during

these rough times. Please let me know if you have any concerns about attending.

Call Center

As you know residents will start manning the call center. For now it will be senior residents with faculty supervision. Give me feedback on this and let me know how it goes.

Observation

Observation status at Kings County has been suspended for the time being. For the next 1-2 days the resident scheduled for observation will care for the remaining patients on observation. After that the observation residents will be expected to report to the main ED. This may change.

Operations

Both sides of the street are working on operations of cohorting patients during triage, walking well and admitted patients. Stay tuned for more information.

This is obviously attending dependent but lets be diligent about who we admit. With observation status being canceled we should seriously think about discharging more patients.

Getting Involved

If you want to get involved with the disaster operations. Let me know I can make a list and our teams can let you know what needs to be done.

Again thank you for your hard work and let me know if you need anything.