



Dear Members,

RNA is working collaboratively with UC Health Nursing leadership to ensure that all RN's have updated information and are knowledgeable and prepared for the potential to care for a patient with Coronavirus.

Visit our resource page information from RNA/ONA, CDC/ODH, & UC Health.  
<http://www.cincynurses.org/resources/covid-19/>

Our latest updates include the following:

- Test kits from the CDC have arrived in Ohio (See Resources Below regarding Testing)
- UCMC currently has good stockpiles of PPE
- Fit testing for the N95 is being expedited
- Priority for fit-testing will be given to high-risk areas where suspected corona-virus patients will be placed

ONA is in discussions with UC Health regarding wages, working conditions, time and attendance, travel restrictions and quarantine of nurses. We will keep you updated.

We have submitted a second information request to UC Health with the following questions:

- 1.) What is your current screening and testing procedure for corona virus?
- 2.) How fast do the test results come back for the corona virus screening?
- 3.) What is the contingency for PPE shortages, were they arise?
- 4.) Who is going to bear the cost of testing to employees and to the public?
- 5.) What is proper protocol for quarantine for staff for suspected exposure?
- 6.) Is the hospital going to discipline staff for time and attendance for their time in quarantine?
- 7.) Is the hospital going to pay workman's compensation in the event staff are exposed or quarantined, taking into account the current policy?
- 8.) What is the proper protocol for quarantine for family members of staff for suspected exposure?
- 9.) What education is the staff being providing to patients, family members and the public in regards to the corona virus?
- 10.) What is the transfer procedure to maintain isolation when sending patients to MRI, radiology etc.?
- 11.) How many negative pressure rooms does the Hospital have available to isolate patients suspected of being infected with corona virus?
- 12.) Where does the Hospital plan to house these patients?
- 13.) Is there consideration being given to nurses and staff who are elderly or who are immune compromised or who have relatives or children who are

immune compromised in being assigning to suspected corona virus patients or areas?

14.) What is the force assignment protocol if no one volunteers or if there is shortage of PPE?

15.) Is there consideration of building a pool of nurses or staff specifically to be assigned to suspected corona virus patients?

16.) If schools are closed, are you going to discipline staff for time and attendance for taking care of their children?

17.) Is UCMC going to impose travel bans on staff with vacation season on the horizon?

18.) In the event there are nurses or staff quarantined resulting in a nursing or staff shortage, will the Hospital be paying a premium for mandatory overtime or for or staff

who specifically volunteer to take corona virus patients or assignment to those areas?

19) How fast do the test results come back for the corona virus screening?

UCMC has established a hotline for immediate patient care needs or questions as a resource for RN's. Call **(513) 584-WASH** to reach a member of the COVID-19 leadership response team.

If you do not have emergency clinical questions, please send questions to [covid19@uchealth.com](mailto:covid19@uchealth.com) or [infection-prevention@uchealth.com](mailto:infection-prevention@uchealth.com)

Below you will find links to the following resources:

- [UC Health Respiratory Policy](#)
- [Updated Communication from UCMC Leadership](#)
- [A link to the Ohio Nurses Association Resource Page](#)
- [Ohio Department of Health Information on Testing for the Coronavirus](#)
- [Guidance from the CDC on self-monitoring for healthcare workers :](#)
  - "Interim US Guidance for Risk Assessment and Public Health Management of Persons with Potential COVID-19 Exposures: Geographic Risk and Contacts of Laboratory-confirmed Cases".
- [Guidance from the CDC to the public:](#)
  - "Interim US Guidance for Risk Assessment and Public Health Management of Healthcare Personnel with Potential Exposure in a Healthcare Setting to Patients with COVID-19"
- ["Evaluating and Reporting Persons Under Investigation \(PUI\)"](#)

You may also contact your Union for any additional resources needed or any labor related questions [rna@cincynurses.org](mailto:rna@cincynurses.org)

In Solidarity,

Michelle, Tina, Kelly, and Mariama  
RNA of UCMC  
513-584-1171 Phone