

December 29, 2020



Following is a transcript of the Weekly Update video published December 29, 2020 and sent to all TriHealth team members, physicians and leaders.

Hi Team –

I hope this Update finds you safe and healthy, and continuing to enjoy special holiday moments with family, while looking forward to a better, brighter and yes, less exciting, New Year just around the corner! For those of our healthcare heroes who have continued to provide our patients with the best and safest care through the holidays, **A BIG THANK YOU** – on behalf of our patients and our entire team – for your heroic selflessness and dedication!

As we wrap up 2020, I know we'd all like nothing more than to also wrap up COVID with it! Unfortunately, we won't be able to leave it behind us just yet! We expect to remain in the midst of this most severe – and hopefully last – wave of infections for at least the next three to four months until vaccines flatten the curve and ultimately eliminate this pandemic. And so we will continue to need “all hands on deck” through the beginning of 2021. This will ensure we can continue to serve every patient who needs us across our greatly expanded inpatient care environment, while also continuing to care for our ambulatory, elective and non-emergent care patients across the region.

On the bright side, an end is in sight to this pandemic and the worrisome increase in hospitalizations it has created! Vaccines are now being shipped all across the country and the vaccination process is well underway, including here at TriHealth where our frontline caregivers and most at-risk team members and providers are already starting to get their vaccines! As you know, achieving a high vaccination rate – sometimes referred to as herd immunity – is our best and only way to end this pandemic and regain a sense of normalcy in our work and in our lives. So, I strongly urge every physician, nurse, and team member to get this essential and safe FDA-approved vaccine when it is your turn. I am definitely planning to receive the vaccine, when it is my turn in line once distribution to our front-line healthcare workers and the more at-risk populations has occurred!

The start of the New Year marks the official launch of the second half of TriHealth's Fiscal Year 2021. And in addition to getting COVID under control, we have a lot to look forward to and celebrate!

The encouraging progress we are making in our safety and reliability journey has, once again, been externally validated through the Fall 2020 Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grades! Good Sam, Bethesda North and McCullough-Hyde all received exceptional “A” ratings and Butler received a strong “B” rating. And steps are now being taken at Bethesda Butler which we believe will result in an “A” grade in the near future! Once again, we are leading the region in quality, safety, and reliability, proving that even in the midst of a pandemic, our team remains unwavering in our commitment to provide the best and safest care anywhere! Many thanks to all of our physicians, nurses, and team members across each of these hospitals who made this achievement—and the reassurance it provides our patients and community -- possible – and it is just one more shining example of what makes our TriHealth Team so great!!

As we look to the work ahead in 2021, in addition to continuing to execute our COVID Surge Plans, while supporting our people, we'll also be further accelerating our work to get healthcare right! In January we'll be celebrating the groundbreaking of our world-class TriHealth Heart Hospital on the Bethesda North Campus. And we will be finalizing our major modernization plans for Good Sam Hospital, while also launching the planning of our 12th major ambulatory campus, which will be located on the westside in Finneytown! Central to all of this work remains our commitment to lead the way in our region in bringing better care, better health, and better value – along with a great place to work and practice – to our greater Cincinnati community and those we serve.

As a reminder, due to the holidays, there is no Leader Meeting or Team Member Town Hall this week. In January, we'll return to our twice a month format for the Leader Meetings and Town Halls, which will be held on January 5th and the 19th.

As we get ready to ring in the New Year later this week, let's toast to a peaceful, healthy, prosperous and ***predictable*** 2021 that looks nothing like 2020!

Happy New Year, everyone, and thank you for all that you do!