We hope this letter finds you and your family safe and well at home. 2021 began with renewed hope with the arrival of the COVID-19 vaccine, and we know how important it is to our patients and their families, as well as to our entire Smilow Cancer Hospital community. The COVID-19 vaccination is widely recommended for both patients with cancer and for cancer survivors.

At this time, the State of Connecticut has approved access to the vaccine for people 65 and over. Yale New Haven Health is working closely with the State to vaccinate as many people as we can. Eligibility is determined by the State and expanded access to patients under the age of 65 with underlying medical conditions has not yet been granted. We will continue to update you when additional access is available.

If you are 65 or over, please login to MyChart and access the COVID-19 scheduling portal or go to www.ynhhs.org/covidvaccine for more information. You can also call the Yale New Haven Health call center at 1-833-ASK-YNHH. If you have had a stem cell transplant or CAR T-Cell therapy, we ask you to contact your oncology provider via MyChart message in advance of your COVID-19 vaccination to discuss the timing of your vaccination.

Please continue to practice extreme precautions to prevent a diagnosis and spread of COVID-19, even after receiving your vaccination; this includes observing social distancing, wearing a mask, and frequently washing your hands.

Your healthcare team remains available to you at any time, and we hope you will reach out with questions or concerns. Additional information is also available by watching the video of our recent Patient and Family Forum or on our Vaccination FAQ webpage.

Warm regards,

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