

Smilow Update: January 18, 2022

Dear Colleagues,

Smilow COVID-19 Directory and COVID Resources

An updated version of the Smilow COVID-19 Directory of resources, policies, and processes that apply to care at Smilow Cancer Hospital and our Care Centers during the COVID-19 pandemic has been posted online. You can locate the Directory in the following places:

- On the Yale Cancer Center intranet: www.yalecancercenter.org/intranet
- On the Yale New Haven Health System intranet: <http://dept.ynhh.org/oncology>
- In Epic, under Smilow Tools.

General COVID-19 Resources are available in the following places:

- YNHHS resources for physicians and staff: <https://www.ynhhs.org/patient-care/covid-19/For-Employees/For-Employees>
- YNHHS resources for patients: <https://www.ynhhs.org/patient-care/covid-19>
- Yale University resources for faculty and staff: <https://covid19.yale.edu/>

Pharmacy Updates

In addition to the availability of sotrovimab, (the monoclonal antibody therapy that is effective against the omicron variant) and paxlovid (the very effective oral COVID-19 antiviral drug), our YNHHS Care Signature group and pharmacy teams have added a pathway to support the ordering of molnupiravir, another oral antiviral COVID-19 drug. A detailed memo is available [here](#), with Tips and Tricks available [here](#).

- Adult Algorithm for COVID
Treatment: <https://agile.md/a/3v6TxC6mWhXceWLjCK41zh6gG7d4e6XpPpHSiWWdQB3JZRbaQ3>
- Pediatric Algorithm for COVID
Treatment: <https://agile.md/a/3v6TyMM5YdpEytBYy9C51AHSPPgiLR2AAiQrutmSVf3e2fpQX>
- A pharmacy Mobile Heartbeat number (471-247-6988) is set up to assist providers in navigating the prescribing of these agents.

Standardized Process for Non-emergent Bedside Procedures

The Primary Care Team is now required to enter diagnostic laboratory orders and introduce the Hospitalist Team to our patients when requesting a non-emergent bedside procedure for inpatients at Smilow Cancer Hospital. This provides an opportunity to crosscheck the appropriateness of the procedure and improve processes by having Primary Team enter all diagnostic laboratory orders before a non-emergent bedside procedure can occur.

- After entering diagnostic laboratory orders, the Primary Team will text the Hospitalist Procedure Team's dynamic MHB role to request the non-emergent bedside procedure. The Hospitalist Procedure Team will review the patient's chart and respond to the text with an ETA.
- The Primary Team will collect a consent form, attach the appropriate patient labels, and fill out the form with the appropriate procedural and patient information. The Primary Team will then place the started consent form into the patient's mini chart at the front of the unit.
- The Hospitalist Procedure Team will text the Primary Team when they arrive to the unit. They will collect the labeled consent form from the patient's mini chart. The Primary Team will meet the Hospitalist Procedure Team outside the patient's room and then introduce them to the patient.
- The Hospitalist Procedure Team will then proceed to explain the indications, risks, benefits, and alternatives. They will complete the consent form and obtain the patient's or health care agent's signature and then sign and date the form themselves.
- The Hospitalist Procedure Team will then complete the non-emergent bedside procedure. In their Procedure note, they will document that the Primary Team was involved in the team introduction.

Vaccine Boosters

It is very clear that COVID-19 vaccine boosters have a substantial impact on reducing COVID-19 infections, severity of illness, hospitalization, and death. At present, roughly 50 percent of our healthcare workers have received a vaccine booster. Those who have not been boosted should do so as soon as possible.

- For YNHHS employees, healthcare worker booster appointments can be accessed within Infor. For members of the Medical Staff who are not employed by the System, the vaccination clinics can be accessed at <https://vaccinepartner.ynhh.org>. Those who received a vaccine booster outside the Health System can send in proof of booster dose administration to vaccineinfo@ynhh.org. Vaccination boosters are a mandatory condition of YNHHS employment, effective March 31, 2022.
- For Yale University employees, please review the information to get **vaccinated and boosted**, and remember to **submit** your information to the university.

COVID Testing

- Community members should make appointments at www.ynhhs.org
- Healthcare workers should make appointments at <https://ocucovidtesting.ynhhs.org/>
- Members of the Yale University community should take advantage of free, **voluntary testing** after travel, after attending gatherings, or any time you are concerned about exposure to COVID-19.

Temporary Housing Available

Yale New Haven Hospital is making accommodations available at the New Haven Hotel for asymptomatic healthcare workers in high-demand areas or roles whose combined work schedule and commute necessitate an overnight or other rest break between shifts in close proximity to YNH. Yale Medicine (YM) is also making this available to its physicians and residents.

- To request housing accommodations, employees must include the following information in an email to lori.pickens@ynhh.org with the subject line: Request for temporary housing accommodation for escalation to SIMTempHousing@ynhh.org
 - First and Last Name
 - Preferred E-mail Address
 - Cell Phone #
 - Delivery Network
 - Department

- Check-In Date
- Expected Check-Out Date

Smilow Stars!

Today we celebrate the **Outlier Management Care Team** and the incredible work of many of our team members on **NP12** for their care and compassion. Recently, their teamwork, sense of integrity, and value and respect for all our patients shined in a patient account submitted for recognition for a **PEACE Award** at Yale New Haven Hospital. **Lisa Mercugliano, RN**, detailed the account of true teamwork in her submission for the PEACE Award and highlighted how our staff fulfilled a patient's dying wish to return home to his family in Guatemala before passing.

Jaime Habersang, RN, worked closely with **Drs. Urs Weber, Erin Gombus, Laura Morrison, and Maribel Cabrera Martinez** to prepare him for medical air transport from Smilow Cancer Hospital. Special thank you to **Danielle Balado, LCSW**, and the Care Management team led by **Richard Papa**, the social work team led by **Gena Lennon-Gomez, Jane Lee**, pharmacist, **Helen Kenny, RN, Rebecca Bock, RN, and Abida Sultana, RN**, as well as Care Management and Post-Acute Care Leadership. Thank you to everyone involved! Your teamwork and action embody the mission of Smilow Cancer Hospital and you are all bright Smilow Stars!

Best regards,

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