

COVID-19 Update: April 9, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

Temperature Tracking

Smilow Cancer Hospital has issued guidelines for provider/staff temperature tracking, which need to be implemented in all clinical areas by Wednesday, April 15. Each clinical location should set up a process, initiated by local leadership, to track and log temperatures of all providers and staff on site daily.

- Employees who screen with a fever greater than or equal to 100 F will be sent home to complete appropriate follow-up with the COVID-19 Call Center (833-ASK-YNHH) for further instruction.
- This guideline does not replace an employee's responsibility to self-monitor for other signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (new cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, and/or chills). If a provider or a clinical team member is working in a clinical area where temperature tracking has not been initiated (such as an OR), it is the employee's responsibility to self-monitor their temperature twice a day.

Temporary Accommodations

YNHH and YM have collaborated to identify facilities to meet the temporary housing needs of our faculty and staff. If you need housing accommodations, please discuss with your Chair or manager and complete the Request for Temporary Housing form available through YNHH and YM for leadership approval.

- **Asymptomatic (short-term):** The New Haven Hotel and Courtyard by Marriott are available for short-term stays (<5 days) for symptom-free employees in mission-critical roles whose combined work schedule and commute necessitate accommodation for respite in close proximity to the Hospital (at the expense of YNHH/YM).
- **Asymptomatic (long-term):** Yale University will provide temporary dormitory accommodations for longer term stays (5-30 days) for employees who are working and currently symptom-free, but requesting temporary accommodations because of high-risk family members at home. High-risk includes age, serious underlying medical condition, pregnancy, etc.

- **Symptomatic (COVID+, long-term):** Yale University has designated specific dormitory accommodations for long-term stays (14+ days) for employees who have tested COVID+ and need quarantined housing. Wellness check and monitoring will be provided, and discharge must be approved by a YNHH care team.

“Quarantine Corner”

Our Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center teams in Waterford and Westerly launched a new way to connect with one another and keep each other grounded during the past few weeks. With the support of **Mary Ann Nash, MBA, MS, RD, CSO**, Director of Oncology Services, they are publishing an internal newsletter, “Quarantine Corner,” each week with mindfulness tips, recipes, at home activities, and ideas for supporting the teams in their Care Centers. The newsletter is the creative energy and effort of **Catherine McCarthy, LCSW, Natalie Smith, MS, RDN, Cheryl Murray, LCSW, and Laurie Scales, RD.**

Key Upcoming Events

- [April 13: Schwartz Rounds; Noon - Laurie Santos, PhD](#)
- [April 14: Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds; Noon: - Craig Crews, PhD](#)
- [April 15: Patient and Family Forum; 7pm](#)

Best regards,

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Physician-in-Chief, Smilow Cancer Hospital

Lori C. Pickens, MHA
Senior Vice President and Executive Director
Smilow Cancer Hospital

Kevin G. Billingsley, MD
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