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## Ladies and Gentlemen:

In light of the <u>highly-contagious</u> Covid omicron variant and updated CDC and NYS guidelines, the attached NYULH 1-6-22 memo has been issued.

Please speak with the workers about the importance of staying home if they test positive or experience Covid symptoms and complete the required isolation outlined in the memo.

With regards to personal protective equipment, contractor personnel working in an <u>active patient care</u> <u>area not behind a smoke-tight construction partition</u> are required to wear an N-95 respirator to protect others and themselves. Use of an N-95 respirator requires employer compliance with OSHA's Respiratory Protection Program which includes medical clearance, fit testing and training. N-95 respirators rely on a seal between the respirator and the face. Therefore, workers wearing an N-95 must be clean shaven for them to be effective.

In indoor non-patient care areas, workers are required to wear a tight-fitting mask which covers the nose and mouth at all times. The use of gaiters, bandanas and masks with an exhalation valve (see attached photo) are not acceptable.



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