

# Leadership Update

October 9, 2020

This week, we have witnessed a concerning trend in cases of COVID-19 within our TTUHSC team. The number of our team members in isolation has risen by 67% and the number of positive employees has risen by almost 25%. These are the highest rates since the onset of the pandemic. In addition to these staff cases, we currently have 22 active symptomatic offender cases in our sector. We need every TTUHSC team member to hold themselves and others accountable to abiding by the following COVID-19 safety precautions:

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water
- Wear a face covering
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Avoid touching your face
- Disinfect often touched surfaces
- Stay 6 feet apart
- **Team members should not congregate for meals or breaks**

If you are feeling sick, it is imperative that you stay home and notify your supervisor. If you have any questions about leave due to COVID-19, please reference the [HR Guidance memo linked here](#) or speak with your supervisor.

COVID-19 has shown us what can happen when there's no vaccine for a highly contagious disease. Thankfully, we do have a vaccine to prevent the flu. Now is the time to get vaccinated to protect yourself, your family, and our patients from the flu. Our healthcare system, and many others, will continue to be strained by COVID-19. Like no year in recent history, **your flu vaccination matters**. Many of our units are hosting on-site flu vaccine clinics this month. If you are not able to attend one of these clinics, please contact your nursing leader or ICN for information on how to get your flu shot.

We would also like to welcome some new faces that have joined our team in the last few weeks. If you have a new team member on your unit, please take a moment to say hello and welcome them to Managed Care!

- **Smith Unit** – *Nelda Quintanilla, Correctional Business Assistant*
- **Tulia Unit** – *Melissa Coronado, Nurse*
- **Allred Unit**
  - *Sarah Johnson, LVN*
  - *Jonathan Stecco, Charge Nurse*
- **Abilene Regional Office** – *Laura Cameron, HR Generalist*
- **Clements Unit** – *Dr. Sbar, Medical Director*
- **Sanchez Unit**
  - *Ernesto Tapia, Unit Manager*
  - *Lucy Thomas, PA*
- **RMF** – *Brandi Mitchell, LVN*

Remain cognizant of your health and social distancing but most importantly, remain diligent with your self-care. You must take care of yourself before you can take care of anyone else.

We are all in this together.

Cynthia Jumper, MD, TTUHSC VP Health Policy and Special Health Initiatives

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