



TO: Catholic Health Medical Staff

FROM: Dr. Kevin Shiley, Infection Prevention and Control

DATE: July 6, 2020

RE: Travel outside of New York State

Effective July 25, Governor Andrew Cuomo announced a quarantine order for travelers returning from states with high rates of Covid-19. Today, the list includes Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Utah. An updated list of states listed in the quarantine order is available at:

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/Covid-19-travel-advisory>

Unnecessary travel to these areas is discouraged, however, the decision to travel remains a personal choice. **If medical staff members decide to travel from one of the affected areas listed, they may not return to work in any Catholic Health facility unless 14 days have passed from the date of arrival or they have tested negative for SARS-CoV-2 using an approved diagnostic test for Covid-19 (Antibody testing cannot be used for this purpose).**

Medical staff electing to undergo SARS-CoV-2 testing in lieu of waiting the 14 day quarantine period must provide evidence of the negative test result to the medical staff office before returning to work in any Catholic Health facility, regardless of the reason for travel.

Medical staff that are planning to work within any Catholic Health facility before completing the 14 day quarantine can arrange for testing through the community or contact Associate Health for testing at: 716-447-6418. It is the responsibility of the medical staff member to obtain such testing and subsequent results before working in any Catholic Health facility. **Be aware that turnaround times may be up to 7 days. It is strongly advised to make arrangements in advance for testing, and to plan your return to work date based on the turnaround time of that testing as part of your overall travel plan if you do not intend to quarantine for 14 days upon return.**

Medical staff that return to work within a Catholic Health facility that have not complied with the criteria outlined above may be subject to disciplinary action.