



March 10, 2020

Dear Colleagues:

In response to the rapid spread of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) across the United States and the world, Yale New Haven Health System has reviewed its policy on travel for all clinical and non-clinical staff and employees.

In order to preserve the health of our employees and to minimize any unnecessary risks to exposure of COVID-19 for the immediate and foreseeable future, all work-related international travel for all employees has been suspended until further notice. We ask that Medical Staff members recognize and also comply with this restriction. It is also highly recommend that you not travel internationally for personal reasons as you may not be able to re-enter the U.S. or you may need to self-isolate when you return.

Regarding domestic travel, we highly recommend you reevaluate both your personal and professional plans, and cancel any non-essential travel that involves large gatherings of individuals. Employees have been asked not to schedule any travel for any future conference or other work-related trips during the next eight weeks.

While many academic and healthcare-related large conferences are already being cancelled or postponed, we realize some may still be scheduled to continue at the time of this release. If your presence is critical at these meetings, we encourage you to seek alternatives for participation such as telephone or video-conferencing. As the COVID-19 epidemic is rapidly evolving in the United States and across the world, we anticipate that there may be further changes to our travel restriction policy in the future. Please monitor the [CDC website](#) for the latest up-to-date recommendations.

While we understand that these restrictions may create both personal and professional conflicts, Yale New Haven Health System is committed to preserving the health and well-being of all who care for the communities we serve. It is of utmost importance to take all and any necessary measures to protect our hospital communities during this global crisis.

As Medical Staff members, we ask your support in following the guidelines as described above. We acknowledge the impact that this may have on your professional and personal lives and hope you will appreciate it was a decision taken in the best interest of the health of everyone across our health system broadly.

These are recommendations as of March 10, 2020 and are subject to change.

Thank you.



Richard D'Aquila
President
Yale New Haven Health



Thomas Balczak, MD
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