

Monday, August 30, 2021

Message from Chief Medical Officer

State Public Health Advisory Board Approves Vaccine Mandate for Health Care Workers

Last week, the Public Health and Health Planning Council approved an emergency regulation that requires health care workers to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. This regulation ratifies and modifies the State Department of Health Commissioner's mandate order that was announced earlier this month. The mandate policy is part of New York's efforts to increase vaccination rates and combat a spike in COVID-19 cases driven by the Delta variant. NYC Health + Hospitals is fully supportive of this regulation, which requires that most health care workers get and [provide proof](#) of having at least the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine by September 27. Health care workers who work exclusively in home care or in diagnostic and treatment clinics will have until October 10 to show proof of their first dose.

We are developing policies and procedures to comply with this emergency regulation while we continue to make access to vaccines easy and convenient for all our staff.

Until the vaccination mandate for all staff is fully implemented or other policies are announced our [vaccine or test policy](#) remains in effect. All NYC Health + Hospitals employees, affiliate staff and others who are not fully vaccinated and work in any of our facilities are required to get tested for COVID-19 every week.

I want to thank all of you – more than 75% of our workforce -- who have already shown proof of vaccination and have taken that important step.

The COVID-19 vaccine is undoubtedly our best way out of this pandemic. If you are not yet vaccinated, I hope you will consider getting your vaccine without any further delay. If you do so before September 27, you will be entered in our [gift giveaway program](#) and will have a chance to win some amazing prizes as a thank you for keeping our patients and our workplaces safe. Thank you.



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Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer

