I would like to remind you that all employees are being asked to self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms at the beginning of every shift. If you feel you are displaying symptoms related to the virus, we ask that you notify your supervisor. COVID-19 symptoms are defied below and may be mild. They include the new onset of any one of the following:

1. Fever >100.4
2. Cough
3. Shortness of Breath

I have heard rumors that we are thinking of laying off employees because of the lack of work. I want you to know that we are not considering this plan of action at this time. If we would have a surge of patients with coronavirus disease in our community we are going to need all of you to help us care for patients. There are plenty of things to worry about in these difficult times but losing your job shouldn’t be one of them.

I hope you will join me in thanking our environmental services employees for the extra work they are doing making sure all surfaces, door handles, hand rails, etc. are safe to touch. We appreciate all you do every day to prevent hospital acquired infections but we are especially appreciative now, so THANK YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!!

As of 9:00 this morning there were 956,588 cases in the world. Yesterday there were 877,422 cases. There have been 48,583 deaths. Yesterday there had been 43,537 deaths. 202,728 patients have recovered. Yesterday that number was 185,241.

In the United States there are now 216,722 positive cases, 5,137 deaths and 8,672 people that have recovered. Yesterday there were 189,633 cases, 4,081 deaths and 7,136 people that have recovered. 84,000 of the US cases are in New York!

In Nebraska there are now 214 cases and five deaths. Yesterday there had been 177 cases and four deaths. The deaths have occurred in Douglas, Hall, Buffalo, Madison and Lincoln counties. There is no data available on recovered patients in our state. We have had one confirmed case in our county with no community spread.

At this time we still believe that we have an adequate supply of PPE, if we use what we have conservatively. We are doing everything possible to obtain more supplies, but so is every other hospital in the country. It appears that most hospitals, large and small, are using UV light to decontaminate N95 masks as we are.

Once again, I want to remind you that the most important thing that you can to do help stop the spread of COVID-19 and protect your family and co-workers is to stay home when not at work and wash your hands. If you have any questions, please ask any member of the leadership team and we will answer your question to the best of our ability. Thanks for all you do every day.