January 29, 2020

To: Human Resources

Re: Coronavirus Information Request

Dear Sir or Madam:

Your facility preparedness plan for the Coronavirus is a major concern of our members. In order to represent our members on matters of health and safety, we request the following necessary information:

The facility’s specific infection control and occupational health plan for the Coronavirus, which should incorporate, a minimum, the current CDC guidance for Coronavirus found at [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/about/prevention.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/about/prevention.html)

A copy of any after action/debriefing report assessing the facility’s response to suspected or known Coronavirus cases.

The details of how the facility will meet and exceed compliance with OSHA’s Bloodborne Pathogen (BBP) standard, including the use of safer needles and sharps, as required in the BBP as per the federal Needlestick Safety and Prevention Act signed into law in November 2000. OSHA’s Bloodborne Pathogens Standard explicitly requires the use of safety-engineered sharp devices and the active involvement of front-line workers in the evaluation and selection of these safer technologies.

A copy of the facility’s current written Respiratory Protection Plan, a list of the aerosol generating procedures the facility has identified and a description as to how these are incorporated into the facility’s Coronavirus preparedness planning. As a part of the current Coronavirus guidance, CDC recommends the use of respiratory protection during all aerosol generating procedures performed on a suspect/known patient.

A copy of the facility’s policy on pay and benefit protection for all workers placed on precautionary removal from their normal work because of possible Coronavirus exposure.

A copy of the plan to involve our local union and our members in the development, periodic review and implementation of the facility’s Coronavirus preparedness plan, including all after action/debriefing reviews after all suspected and known Coronavirus cases.
cases. Our members’ involvement and experience can help ensure the plan is as effective as possible in both providing care for these patients while protecting the health and safety of our members.

We recognize that this list is probably not complete. If you are aware of any other documents or information, which would be helpful to us in evaluating Coronavirus preparedness concerns, please forward that information to us as well.

As you know, we are entitled to the above information under the Occupational Safety and Health Act and /or the National Labor Relations Act. We request a response as soon as possible, but within 15 days, except in the instances where OSHA regulations require a quicker response. If you are not willing to make any portion of the requested information available, I ask that you advise us as soon as possible. Also please state with particularity the reasons for your decision.

Please forward all documents or electronic copies to:

Brenda Hilbrich, Chief of Staff
345 Randolph Avenue Suite 100
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651.294.8100
brenda.hilbrich@seiuadmin.org

Thank you in advance for your timely response to this request.

Sincerely,

Jamie Gulley
President
SEIU Healthcare Minnesota