

RNs DEFENDING NEW YORK'S HEALTH, Demanding Preparedness from Hospitals

To ensure the safety and health of staff, patients, and the New York community, every healthcare facility in New York must take the following safety measures to prepare for COVID Resurgence. These detailed Transparency demands are a part of the broader NYSNA COVID Resurgence Plan, available online at nysna.org/resurgence



Complete Transparency and Collaboration with Nurses

- 1. Nurses have a right to know what risks they're facing when they report to work. Employers must issue regular daily reports to all staff, documenting essential information such as how many COVID-positive patients they are treating, levels of PPE, ongoing plans for screening and cohorting, and the number of staff who've been exposed to or gotten sick from COVID. Nurses can't fight this virus and win without all the intel.
- 2. The employer will provide copies of the New York DOH Health Emergency Response Data System (HERDS) reports to NYSNA whenever produced and sent to New York State.
- 3. Employers must share their surge capacity plan to address future COVID outbreaks with all staff. NYSNA and the employer will identify where new units will open, detail staffing needs for those new units, and plan for any training required to safely redeploy staff.
- 4. The employer and NYSNA must conduct unit by unit assessments of preparedness. Each and every unit needs to be assessed for COVID risks and COVID patient care capabilities. The assessment will involve frontline nurse feedback and input to affect immediate and long term changes to improve preparedness.
- 5. Nurses need to have a seat at the table during all decisions involving their patients and profession. If the employers trust nurses to run their facilities 24-7 when management goes home, they should trust their judgement in the board room when strategic decisions are made in response to COVID-19.