

WE DEMAND SAFE WORKING CONDITIONS: ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

NUHW Shop Stewards and the RN/Professional Organizing Committee met this week and have proposed these demands to ensure the safety for our patients and ourselves.



The Time Is Now! Time is of the essence as we've begun to see an increase in staff call offs due to illness and exposure and all predictions are that this will increase. Staff shortages **will result in greater stress on current staff and an inability to provide safe quality patient care, dissatisfaction among patients and possible risk to our licenses.**

As always, it's up to us to be advocates for our patients and ourselves. Time and time again, we've had to stand up for safety and this time is no different.

1. **Boosters:** The hospital needs to immediately make boosters available on site for all staff.
2. **Community Exposure:** We need a clear understanding and agreement on the precise protocol in the event a staff member is exposed to a positive COVID infected person outside the confines of the hospital.
Are staff required to report such exposure and if so to whom?
If staff are reporting as asymptomatic, will the hospital be following the recent CDC quarantine guidelines of five days for a vaccinated person and seven days for an unvaccinated person?
Will the hospital provide onsite testing for staff during the quarantine period or upon return?
3. **Contact Tracing:** For exposure at work we have grave concerns about the failure of Employee Health to promptly notify staff of potential exposure. This failure puts us and our patients at risk and is a violation of California regulations.
4. **Protective Personal Equipment (PPE):** The hospital must have a minimum of 90 days of PPE stockpiled and available. Further, we believe that any staff who wishes to utilize an N95 at work, be provided regardless of the unit, job or work assignment.
5. **COVID ZONES:** It is imperative that we know the specific units/rooms and areas that are now designated or will be designated as COVID ZONES.
6. **Compensation for missed shifts due to quarantine:** Under NUHW's Collective Bargaining Agreement for workplace exposure, which requires quarantine, the facility shall provide compensation for missed shifts up to 14 days. We believe ALL staff at Fountain Valley should be provided this compensation.
7. **Patient visitor screening:** Stricter enforcement needs to take place with regard to validating vaccination status of patient visitors.

If you experience safety concerns, please contact your NUHW Shop Steward or RN/Pro Organizing Committee member.