

PENN PSYCHIATRY

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER | RESURGENCE AND ANTI-RACISM

JULY 29, 2020



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Faculty, Trainees and Staff:

As usual, I want to start out by thanking you for the amazing work you are doing. Your dedication and altruism is inspiring! COVID-19 is still with us but our beautiful (if warm!) Philadelphia continues to fare relatively well.

We have seen a resurgence that is truly impressive in terms of patient care. In psychiatry, we are actually seeing more patients than before the pandemic. We are not alone. Across the health system, the clinical resurgence has been impressive. Patient visits and procedures are north of 90% relative to what we were seeing in February, so much so that UPHS announced today that the “shared success” payments for the staff will be disbursed in the next paycheck. We also will be able to pay out incentives to the faculty, about which I am delighted!

The research resurgence is also going well. We now are able to have about 50% of the staff on site although most groups are well below that. Our trainees are steeped in their clinical work and classes and are seeing more patients in person now.

That is all great news, but we must remain vigilant. Continuing to use face masks and practice physical distancing both at work and at home will be essential to ensure our ongoing success. If we needed more encouragement to use face masks, initial data now suggests that a face mask is not just altruistic, it also appears to offer some protection against more severe manifestations of COVID-19! Makes sense to me!

Another thing we must remain vigilant about is our own well-being. Please remember to stick to your routines regarding eating, sleeping and exercise. Make time for yourself to relax. Consider taking a vacation, even if it has to be a staycation. Please, do all you can to take care of yourself.

Warmly, m

WELLNESS RESOURCES

Click [here](#) to access our Wellness Resources.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE.

Vision

Promoting health for the brain and mind to transform lives and the world.

Mission

Penn Psychiatry develops and implements new ideas to understand, prevent, and treat disorders of the brain and mind, through innovative research and discoveries, outstanding educational, world renowned clinical services, and transformational public health policies.