



**Minnesota Hospital Association**

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**MHA statement on the expiration of Minnesota's stay at home order and continued guidance to stay home whenever possible**

May 14, 2020

As caregivers, our top priorities are to ensure the health of our communities and to protect the health and safety of our front-line care team members. As we learn more about this virus and its attack on organs in addition to the lungs and the new cases affecting children, we must continue to take great care to protect our most vulnerable neighbors, including long-term care residents.

We are closely monitoring the number of COVID-19 patients in our hospital beds and the number of filled ICU beds. The numbers of cases, ICU patients and deaths are increasing.

Accordingly, hospitals and health systems remain concerned about any preventable loss of life, and we are asking Minnesotans to partner with us in preventing more cases and deaths. As the governor and state officials work to balance the health and well-being of Minnesotans and our economy during this ongoing global pandemic, hospitals and health systems will continue to do our part – care for the patients and communities we serve and partner closely with the state to prepare for hot spots and a surge. We strongly urge Minnesotans to continue to practice diligent physical distancing in public and to stay at home whenever possible to protect their and their families' health and reduce the spread of infection to vulnerable populations in our state.

With the strong public-private partnership in Minnesota, the state is now able to closely track hospital ICU surge capacity, PPE supplies and other important indicators. We support the governor's plan to closely monitor these important metrics, which will allow him to quickly turn the dial back down if concerning events like a large surge occur. We will continue to partner with the state to ramp up testing; acquire supplies, including PPE, necessary to continue to provide high-quality care to all of our patients and protect our front line care team members; and plan for capacity in our hospitals to respond to increasing cases and hot spots.

Dr. Rahul Koranne  
President and CEO  
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