



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 18, 2020

Media Contact: [Christina Trincherio](#) | 413-582-2000

COVID-19 Update

As expected, given the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), Cooley Dickinson has seen an increase in people with respiratory symptoms and increased COVID-19 testing over the past several days. “Our infection control and emergency preparedness teams have been preparing for this possibility since we first learned of the outbreak in China.” Said Cooley Dickinson Chief Executive Officer Joanne Marqusee, “We are so proud of our staff for all they have been doing to prepare and to protect the health of our patients and community. We work around the clock and will continue to do so.”

We were notified by the Mass Department of Public Health that two patients tested at Cooley Dickinson Hospital have tested positive for novel Coronavirus COVID-19. We have coordinated closely with the Department of Public Health and are following all Mass DPH and Centers for Disease Control guidelines and protocols. For the care of these patients, we followed all isolation and PPE protocols.

We would like to remind the public that testing is still quite limited so strict criteria are being used to determine who gets testing. With or without a test, people with mild symptoms should stay home. If they are concerned about whether they need to be seen by a provider, they should call their primary care physician.

~