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2020-03-17 A Message from Chancellor Roth

Paul B. Roth

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HEALTH SCIENCES

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

A Message from Chancellor Roth

Dear colleagues,

As of this morning, the total number of New Mexicans who have tested positive for the coronavirus stands at 23, with two of those cases reported at UNM Hospital. Nearly 1,300 tests have been administered statewide. Please remember to be gracious and kind to each other, both at work and at home, as I know these times are straining.

Here are some additional updates:

- In order to protect our patients and health care workers from the risk of infection, we are [restricting visitor access to UNM Hospital, effective immediately](#).
- Due to the reduction in faculty, staff and students on North Campus, the happy heart Bistro will close, effective end of day Wednesday, March 18. Right now, the cafe is planning to reopen when we are all scheduled to return to campus.
- The HSC Fitness Center will also close Wednesday, March 18. While we know this is an outlet for many of you and important for provider well-being, the gym is closing for the safety of our community. [Here are some other options](#), put together by the School of Medicine Office of Professional Wellbeing.
- And, as I mentioned in yesterday's message, Tier 2 employees should now be working from home in accord with the plans set out by their supervisors. I hope you are practicing social distancing in your daily interactions. Here are some resources on [how to practice social distancing](#) and [be mindful of your well-being](#).
- Our Tier 1 employees and faculty and staff with clinical responsibilities are working incredibly hard, please think of ways you can support them - send an encouraging text or an email, drop a card in the mail, schedule a FaceTime visit.

Each of us has an important role to play in helping the Health Sciences Center meet its obligations to our patients. Thank you for doing your part.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul B. Roth". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paul" and last name "Roth" clearly legible.

Paul B. Roth, MD, MS
Chancellor for Health Sciences
CEO, UNM Health System
Dean, UNM School of Medicine