PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 9, 2020

MEDIA CONTACT
media@uhnj.org
(973) 634-8298

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL ANNOUNCES COVID-19 TESTING FOR EVERYONE, INCLUDING ASYMPTOMATIC INDIVIDUALS

NEWARK, NJ — University Hospital announced today that, as part of its ongoing *Care Around the Clock* program, it will now offer COVID-19 testing to any New Jersey resident who wants to be tested, including those who are not demonstrating typical COVID-19 symptoms.

Access to COVID-19 testing is necessary to enable our communities to begin to reopen. For instance, the New Jersey Department of Health specifically recommends that asymptomatic individuals be tested if they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or if they are an essential worker. Anyone interested in a COVID-19 test can now make an appointment at University Hospital for this service.

"Working with our partners in the health care community, we have made strenuous efforts to reduce the number of COVID-19 cases and to test residents to help prevent the virus from spreading," **Mayor Baraka** said. "University Hospital's testing program will strengthen these efforts, and enable Newark to reopen and begin to recover from this pandemic. I commend UH for again demonstrating its professionalism, compassion, and commitment to our city in a time of crisis."

"The City of Newark has gone through trying times during the COVID-19 crisis, but University Hospital has stood united with the City throughout," said **Shereef Elnahal, President & CEO of University Hospital**. "Offering testing to asymptomatic individuals is part of a series of next steps that the city is shepherding in helping the residents of Newark progress towards a new normal. I thank the Mayor for his incredible leadership throughout."

Today's announcement is the latest step in University Hospital's *Care Around the Clock* program. As part of the implementation of *Care Around the Clock,* new procedures at the hospital exist to protect patients and the public, and to encourage the public's return for acute medical needs, elective procedures, and routine care at the hospital's various care centers.

Individuals will not be required to pay for these services out of pocket. Rather, University Hospital will direct claims for payment to patients' insurance or existing governmental sources for payment of uninsured COVID-19 claims.

Testing will be offered in our Ambulatory Care Center, located at 140 Bergen Street in Newark. **An appointment is necessary.** Individuals wishing to be tested can call to make an appointment at **(973)972-9000.**

# # #

About University Hospital
University Hospital is part of one of the nation's leading academic medical centers and is the Level 1 Trauma Center for Northern New Jersey. Located at University Heights in Newark, University Hospital is a principal teaching hospital of Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences and a regional resource for advanced services across many medical specialties. For more information about University Hospital, please visit www.uhnj.org.