



Dear Colleagues:

The Massachusetts Nurses Association has issued notification of a nursing work stoppage, which will begin on Monday, June 27th, at 0700. The work stoppage will end on Saturday, July 2nd, at 0700.

We hope to settle the contract and avoid a strike. At the same time, we are also moving ahead with our comprehensive preparedness efforts so that we are ready to care for our patients in the event of a five-day work stoppage. To ensure the highest quality, safest care of our patients, we must reduce inpatient and emergency department occupancy at Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH) by approximately 40%. Until the end of the work stoppage, our ability to admit patients to BWH will be significantly limited.

However, through the duration of the anticipated work stoppage, we fully intend to keep the BWH emergency department OPEN to all EMS traffic and walk-in patients.

While our ED will be open and fully capable of treating and stabilizing all patients including stroke, STEMI and trauma patients, we ask you to consider the following when making destination decisions:

- While the ED will be able to treat and stabilize all patients in the ED, we may not be able to admit patients to our medicine or surgical services
- We may need to transfer patients to other regional institutions for admission
- EMS turnaround times may be delayed

Thank you for your understanding and support during this challenging time. We will keep our partners and colleagues informed as our preparations move forward. Please forward this message to whomever you deem appropriate within your organization.

If you have any questions, please contact Scott Goldberg at [sagoldberg@partners.org](mailto:sagoldberg@partners.org).

Thank you for all that you do.

Sincerely,

Scott Goldberg, MD, MPH, FACEP  
Director of EMS, Brigham & Women's Hospital