To the UW Medicine Community:

Dear Colleagues,

In late February, UW President Ana Mari Cauce announced international travel restrictions for the UW community, including staff, faculty and students, to help stem the spread of the SARs-CoV2 infection that causes COVID-19. These UW international travel restrictions remain in place.

UW Medicine faculty and staff are playing a critical role in the community effort to identify and care for patients, track and analyze the spread of disease, and establish protocols and procedures to protect our workforce and patients from exposure. Our clinical care, education and research activities are essential for the local community, and the UW Medicine work is also having a major global impact. We need to protect and preserve the UW Medicine workforce so that we can continue to provide the expertise necessary to address the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

To protect and preserve our workforce, **UW Medicine leadership has decided to restrict all work-related travel for UW Medicine employees, effective March 9, 2020 through April 3, 2020.** Additionally, I encourage everyone to reconsider their personal travel plans to help contain this epidemic. We also recommend that visiting faculty and meetings be postponed, cancelled or held via teleconference. Please read the entire policy [here](#).

I greatly appreciate the sacrifices you are making to respond to this global pandemic. UW Medicine faculty and staff have been local and global leaders throughout these tumultuous times and with your commitment we will lead the way through this crisis. Your current efforts are an extreme example of our mission to improve the health of the public, and I am deeply indebted to each of you.

Sincerely,

Paul G. Ramsey, M.D.
CEO, UW Medicine
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs and
Dean of the School of Medicine,
University of Washington