4.25.20 Notes from the Governor's Briefing:

- Hospitalizations down again, back to where we were on April 1, as far as daily hospitalizations.
- Intubations and new cases are also down. 1,184 new COVID hospitalizations.
- 437 new deaths yesterday: 418 in hospitals / 19 in nursing homes.

TESTING:
- State currently averaging about 20k a day, reiterates goal of 40k per day.
- Gov was on a call yesterday with other govs and VP Pence discussing testing division of responsibility between states and fed gov't.
  - Feds on supplies and states on administration.
  - Need to build a collection network to meet increased lab capacity.
- EXEC ORDER: authorizing independent pharmacists to conduct diagnostic coronavirus tests. Pharmacy will collect sample.
  - Expanding test criteria today as a result of increased capacity.
    - First responders, healthcare, essential.
    - First Responders: Fire fighters, EMTs, Police, Correction, Parole, Probation.
    - Testing criteria will continue to expand as capacity increases.
- Conducting antibody testing for frontline healthcare workers at four hospitals and healthcare systems in NYC: Bellevue, Montefiore, Elmhurst, SUNY Downstate (An all COVID facility)
- Comprehensive antibody testing, next week:
  - MTA, TWU Local 100, State Police, NYPD

GOV PERSPECTIVE:
- Day 56 of COVID. 1918 Pandemic, 2 years. WWI, 4 years. Great Depression, 4 years. WWII, 6 years. Vietnam War, 8 years.
- "What you are doing is actually saving lives." Experts predicted 100k more serious infections. Gov describes reduction of infections a result of efforts. "It's a heck of an accomplishment and one we can be proud of."

Q&A:

REOPENING:
- Gov reiterates that the effort is to balance reopening in the three-state approach. Also reiterates the mobility of citizens as a concern.
- Working with state and regional coalitions, and plan is to bring the two together.
- DeRosa: one priority is to recognize sensitivities along regions that share a border with states.

DATA:
- State currently doesn't have demographic data in detail on hospitalizations, but knows which hospitals people are being admitted to.
- Malatras: demographic data comes in at a lag.

NURSING HOMES:
- Zucker: fields question on whether DOH should have done more, because of insufficiencies going into the pandemic. Says that DOH monitored as they could, and sent supplies as needed.
- Gov states that the field is highly regulated and investigated. Adds that this crisis overwhelmed the nursing homes. Gov refers to reg that stipulates the quality and level of care mandate.
- Malatras: 28 sites for nursing home testing, adding 15.

SPECIAL ELECTIONS:
- Gov can't legally effect a Congressional race, so the Collins seat special is still in effect. Last night's Exec Order cancelled Senate and Assembly special elections. Seats will be filled during general election.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE:
- will provide update tomorrow (Sunday).