



**DR. LAURA IAVICOLI**

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**My Role:** I work as an emergency medicine expert on the NYC Health + Hospital COVID-19 action team.

There are multiple levels of work that we are doing: coordinating efforts between the emergency department staff -because we are the hardest hit at the moment. I also work with a team that coordinates efforts for Elmhurst as a whole and the entire health system.

I was involved in SARS, H1N1, and Ebola. This is much more of a massive crisis. The amount patients we are dealing with is unlike anything that we have dealt with before. Ever.

**Why I'm Fighting COVID-19:** This is what I signed up for when I became an emergency medicine physician. I am trained in emergency management, so I use my expertise to help in large crises.

This is my community. I feel like everyone has come together, everyone is willing to pitch in to help. It's overwhelming to see everyone assisting one another, because you see the good in humanity. We are here to take care of everyone.

**Managing Stress:** My colleagues and I look out for each other. We all lean on each other. We know each other so well that we know when to tell each other to take breaks.

My family is also so supportive. They understand the situation and know that I will not be home. So, they send me smiling faces and FaceTime when possible to encourage me. When they do, my husband, David, and three kids Izzy, 12; Lucy, 10; and Lilia, 9; tell me they love me. They're amazing.