March 15, 2019

Dear Einstein Community:

Sadly, we are again confronted with a senseless act of violence and murder that has targeted a community of faith. We mourn for the 49 killed and 20 injured in the mosques in New Zealand and their families. That the attack took place during prayers only deepens the heartbreak. We condemn this act of terror as an act of violence against us all, especially since the U.S., like many other countries, is witnessing a steady rise in attacks motivated by religious and racial hatred.

While Einstein was established under the auspices of a Jewish university, it has welcomed students, faculty, and staff from every religion, race, and country of origin. We have a deep and abiding commitment to maintain a diverse and inclusive community that respects all its members. What unites us is our dedication to improving the health and lives of all people, regardless of background or circumstances. We must reaffirm that we stand for brotherhood and cooperation with, and understanding of, individuals of all races, creeds, and religions.

Our dedication was, and continues to be, a profound statement of purpose and unity, countering forces that promote division, bigotry, and hate.

Sincerely,

Gordon F. Tomaselli, M.D.
The Marilyn and Stanley M. Katz Dean
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
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Executive Vice President and
Chief Academic Officer
Montefiore Medicine