

Print - Layoffs coming to Cleveland Clinic in plan to reduce budget by \$330 million | wkyc.com

wkyc.com

Layoffs coming to Cleveland Clinic in plan to reduce budget by \$330 million

11:47 AM, Sep 18, 2013

CLEVELAND -- The Cleveland Clinic has told workers they will be laying off an unspecified number of employees as part of an overall, sweeping cost-reduction plan.

Clinic CEO Dr. Toby Cosgrove discussed the looming cuts and changes in a Wednesday morning all-employee meeting.

Clinic spokeswoman Eileen Sheil denied circulating rumors that employees were told there would be 3,000 jobs cut.

She said any layoffs will be part of a multi-year plan to cut \$330 million from the Clinic's budget.

Related story: **Cleveland Clinic team to develop breast cancer vaccine**

Related story: **Woman mauled by chimp is first face transplant recipient**

Related story: **Cleveland Clinic Pediatric Pain Clinic**

Related story: **Cleveland Clinic, University Hospitals earn national honors**

Related story: **History | World-renowned Cleveland Clinic**

The Clinic is the region's largest employer with roughly 42,000 workers.

Sheil said personnel represents 60 percent of the Clinic's budget.

She said early retirement would be offered to 3,000 eligible employees. Most vacant jobs are not being filled.

She attributed most of the budget reductions to looming changes accompanying the start of the Affordable Health Care Act.

Sheil said the Clinic had not made overall layoffs in the past 11 years.

She declined to give a specific figure on how many jobs could be lost.

Sheil said that depends on how much savings individual departments can make with other reductions.

She added that any layoffs would be across the board, including doctors.

The Clinic issued the following statement:

"To prepare for healthcare reform, Cleveland Clinic is transforming the way care is delivered to patients. Over the past several years, we have had an ongoing focus on driving efficiencies,

lowering costs, reducing duplication in services and enhancing quality to make healthcare affordable to patients.

Although we have made progress, we need to further reduce costs to the organization by \$330 million in 2014. We are carefully evaluating all aspects of our system to accomplish this. Some of the initiatives include offering early retirement to 3,000 eligible employees, reducing operational costs, stricter review of filling vacant positions, and lastly workforce reductions.

Through these changing times, we are focused on providing the highest quality of care to our patients in the most efficient and cost-effective manner."