



Public Health Department

Danette York, M.P.H., Director
Andy Miller, M.D., Health Officer

Community Health – Communicable Diseases/Oroville

202 Mira Loma Drive
Oroville, California 95965

T: 530.552.3929
F: 530.538.5387

buttecounty.net/publichealth

Health Advisory

To: Healthcare Providers and Facilities

From: Andy Miller, M.D. (signed original on file)

Date: April 1, 2020

Re: Masking Guidance, Guidance updates and COCA Conference Call Information

Update:

As of April 1, 2020 at 8am, Butte County has 8 cases of COVID-19. In an effort to provide the most up-to-date information the Butte County Department of Public Health (BCPH) would like to provide you with the following information and links regarding masks, updated CDC Guidance and Clinician Outreach and Community Activity (COCA) Conference calls. CDC and CDPH guidance changes frequently as this situation evolves. Please be sure to check CDPH and CDC websites often for updated guidance documents.

Updated guidance on surgical facemasks and N95 respirators

Surgical masks

- Mounting evidence shows that infected persons can transmit COVID-19 during the pre-symptomatic phase. As such, all healthcare workers, including office and support staff, not otherwise recommended to wear N95s, are strongly advised to wear a surgical facemask when in patient care areas. A single facemask can be worn for the entire day. This will provide some protection to the healthcare workers and, importantly, will help to prevent inadvertent transmission from pre-symptomatic healthcare workers to patients and co-workers.
- With expended recommendations for use of facemasks, facilities are recommended to implement controls on supplies to avoid overuse or misdirection of facemasks.

N-95 Decontamination

- To extend the supply of N95 respirators, CDC has issued guidance on decontamination processes for N95s using vaporous hydrogen peroxide, ultraviolet germicidal irradiation, or moist steam. N95s may be decontaminated 3-5 times, depending on the process, thereby greatly extending N95 supplies. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/decontamination-reuse-respirators.html>

Updated CDC Guidance

Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Healthcare Settings

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html>

Interim Clinical Guidance for Management of Patients with Confirmed Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-guidance-management-patients.html>

Clinician Outreach and Community Activity (COCA)

Recent CDC COCA webinars on clinical management of COVID-19 infected patients. These webinars are recorded for on-demand viewing.

Clinical Management of Critically Ill Adults with Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2020/callinfo_040220.asp

Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Healthcare Settings.

https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2020/callinfo_031320.asp

Categories of urgency levels:

Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.