



Public Health Department

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Health Advisory

To: Healthcare Providers and Facilities

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

Date: May 14, 2020

Re: COVID-19 Testing, Reporting, Symptom Updates, Isolation and Stage 2 Opening

Update:

As of May 14, 2020 at 8am, Butte County has 21 cases of COVID-19. The Butte County Public Health Department (BCPH) would like to update you on COVID-19 testing, reporting, symptom updates, isolation and reopening.

Testing

CDPH issued an AFL on May 2, 2020 updating the prioritization tiers for COVID-19 antigen (viral) Testing. There are now only two tiers for testing rather than four. This guidance is assessed weekly based on the evolving situation and input from stakeholders. Below is a link to the AFL. <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-20-44.aspx>. Note that at this time, serologic (antibody) testing is NOT recommended for diagnostic purposes or assessment of immunity to COVID-19.

Now included in tier one are asymptomatic healthcare workers. All healthcare providers in Butte County are encouraged to seek testing and support their staff in getting tested.

The Butte County Health Officer, in concert with other area Health Officers, also recommends that **close contacts of confirmed cases** be tested for COVID-19 at day 7 and day 14 following exposure to the confirmed case. Persons in need of testing can be referred to the Optum Serve site at the Silver Dollar Fairgrounds or Ampla Clinics in Butte County for specimen collection.

The Optum Serve site, one of 80 statewide viral specimen collection sites, is open M – F 7:00am to 7:00pm by appointment. To schedule an appointment for viral specimen collection by accessing: <https://lhi.care/covidtesting>. For persons with no internet access, registration by phone can be completed by calling 888-634-1123.

COVID-19 Result Reporting Requirements

For providers performing in office tests, please be aware that per Title 17, California Code of Regulations (17 CCR) section 2505, SARS-CoV-2 (Covid-19) laboratory results (positive, negative, and inconclusive) must be reported daily to the local health officer for the jurisdiction where the patient resides, by telephone AND through the Electronic Lab Reporting system CalREDIE. If you aren't able to access CalREDIE, facilities may fax the lab results to the local health department while working to

establish the ability to do electronic lab reporting.

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/OSPHLD/LFS/CDPH%20Document%20Library/LFSCoVID19ltr-1.pdf>.

Under 17 CCR, section 2500, cases of Covid-19 are immediately reportable by phone to the local health department. You may submit a completed CMR via fax to Oroville: 530-538-5387 or Chico: 530-879-3309. You can access a fillable CMR on our website by accessing the below link:

<http://www.buttecounty.net/Portals/21/Diseases/Resources/CMRButte.pdf>

Your prompt reporting will help BCPH institute rapid case investigation and contact tracing in efforts to stop any further transmission of COVID-19.

To reach Butte County Public Health Monday through Friday 8am to 5pm please call 530-552-3929. After hours you may call 530-332-2462

Symptom Updates

The CDC has expanded the list of symptoms associated with COVID-19 to include emergency warning signs to seek medical attention immediately. Those symptoms include trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion or inability to arouse and bluish lips or face in addition to fever cough, and shortness of breath/ difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

Removal from Isolation

For persons recovered from COVID-19 illness, CDC recommends that isolation be maintained for at least 10 days *after illness onset* and at least 3 days (72 hours) *after recovery*. Recovery is defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications with progressive improvement or resolution of other symptoms. See <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/strategy-discontinue-isolation.html>

Stage 2 Opening

As we start to slowly open more business sectors in the County it is important we maintain the preventive practices that were implemented, such as, wearing face masks, handwashing and social distancing. Below is a link to information from DHCS regarding resuming deferred and preventive Health Care. [Resuming California's Deferred and Preventive Health Care](#)

CDC and CDPH guidance changes frequently as this situation evolves. Please be sure to check CDPH and CDC websites often for updated guidance documents.

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.