



Public Health Department

Danette York, M.P.H., Director
Phuong Luu, M.D., Interim 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: Butte County Public Health

Date: July 30, 2020

Re: Updated Title 17 Disease Reporting Requirements and Policy change to Hospital PE Program

Update:

As of July 30, 2020 at 8:00am, Butte County has 883 cases of COVID-19. The Butte County Public Health Department (BCPH) would like to provide you with an update on Title 17 Disease reporting requirements issued by CDPH and updates to the policy for the Hospital PE Program.

Updated CMR and Lab Reporting Requirements

CDPH, in consultation with the California Conference of Local Health Officers, updated Title 17 sections 2500 and 2505 to improve our ability to accurately assess disparities in reportable conditions related to race, ethnicity, sexual orientation and gender identity. This update affects the Confidential Morbidity Report (CMR) that is submitted to the local health departments. Below are the Section 2500 changes. Section 2505 includes the same updates and requirements for laboratories.

- Requirement to report sexual orientation and gender identity data elements:
 - **Current gender identity**
 - Choices are: Male; Female; Trans male/Transman; Trans female/Transwoman; Genderqueer or non-binary; Identity not listed; Declined to answer; Unknown
 - **Sex assigned at birth**
 - Choices are Male; Female; Declined to answer; Unknown
 - **Sexual orientation**
 - Choices are: Heterosexual or straight; Bisexual; Gay, lesbian, or same gender loving; Orientation not listed; Questioning/unsure/patient doesn't know; Declined to answer; Unknown
- Race and Ethnicity as separate data elements:
 - **Race**
 - **Ethnicity**

BCPHD encourages providers and laboratories to complete these data fields accurately and completely to advance our ability to identify and address health disparities. Below is a link pertaining to the Title 17 changes for reference.

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/OLS/CDPH%20Document%20Library/DPH-20-021-Text.pdf>

Hospital Presumptive Eligibility Program

Medi-Cal provided the below update to expand Hospital PE coverage.

As California continues to respond to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), the Hospital Presumptive Eligibility (HPE) Program will temporarily expand presumptive eligibility (PE) coverage to a new coverage group of individuals who are 65 or older and whose income is below 138 percent of the Federal Poverty level (FPL), effective immediately. This new coverage group is referred to as the "Aged" HPE group. This coverage group is allowed two (2) periods of PE in a twelve-month period and will be assigned aid code 7D. This expansion will be in effect through the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

DHCS is also expanding presumptive eligibility periods through HPE for adults that are age 19 years and over. HPE will now provide two (2) periods of presumptive eligibility in a twelve-month period for adults age 19 and over. This change is effective immediately and will be in effect through the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

DHCS has received federal approval on these new policy changes through California State Plan Amendment 20-0024.

It is critical that HPE Providers monitor the Hospital PE Program Medi-Cal website for future articles and materials related to this topic.

Questions concerning the HPE expansion should be sent to DHCSHospitalPE@dhcs.ca.gov.

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.