



Public Health Department

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Health Advisory

To: Healthcare Providers and Facilities

From: Butte County Public Health

Date: July 21, 2020

Re: COVID-19 Updated Testing Guidance, HCW Return to Work and Isolation Updates

Update:

As of July 20, 2020 at 4:00 pm, Butte County has 640 cases of COVID-19. The Butte County Public Health Department (BCPH) would like to update you on updated COVID-19 testing guidance issued by CDPH.

Updated Testing Guidance

COVID-19 testing in California has expanded over the last three months and a lot has been learned about the populations and communities it impacts disproportionately. The guidance should be used for prioritization of patient populations as well as for the purposes of guiding laboratories in managing specimen processing. An important item to note in the new guidance document is regarding inappropriate workplace testing. PCR tests can remain positive long after an individual is no longer infectious. Proof of a negative test should not be required prior to returning to the workplace after documented COVID infection. To view the full details of the guidance access the link below.

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Updated-COVID-19-Testing-Guidance.aspx>

Local Specimen Collection Sites

Below is a link to the most up to date specimen collection sites available in our local area.

<http://www.buttecounty.net/Portals/21/COVID-19/COVIDTestingLocations.pdf?ver=2020-06-26-092239-917>

COVID-19 Testing Lab List

The link provided below is a listing of labs that have been vetted by CDPH that facilities can contract with providers to send specimens for testing.

https://testing.covid19.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/332/2020/07/COVID-19-Testing-Task-Force-Lab-List-updated-07_2_20.pdf

Criteria for Return to Work for Healthcare Personnel with COVID-19 Infection

As of July 17, 2020 the CDC has updated the interim guidance for return to work for Healthcare Personnel with SARS-CoV-2 Infection. Below is a link to the updated guidance.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/return-to-work.html>

General Public Isolation Updates

The CDC has issued updates to the Isolate If You Are Sick information. It includes new guidelines to calculate the end of the isolation period. Below is a link to the site.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/isolation.html>

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.