



## COVID-19 Health Update – August 17, 2020

### Replaces June 17, 2020 Health Advisory

#### Updated COVID-19 Healthcare Provider Reporting Requirements for Alameda County

#### Updates are Highlighted

#### Situation

Positive real-time polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) tests and **antigen<sup>1</sup>** tests for current SARS-CoV-2 infection— not antibody— must be reported to the Alameda County Public Health Department (ACPHD).

#### Actions Requested of Clinicians and Laboratories

To assist providers in reporting positive cases to ACPHD, we have streamlined our reporting pathways:

- Laboratories must report positive and negative results within **8 hours** via Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR), or by fax at **(510) 273-3944**.
  - All laboratory test requisitions and reports must now contain patient race and ethnicity. See [Title 17 Revisions - Laboratory Letter](#) for more information.
- Laboratories and health care providers **do not need to call** Alameda County Public Health Department (ACPHD) to report positive cases. **Instead, healthcare providers should do the following:**
  - For clinical inquiries related to interpretation of laboratory results or evaluation and management of patients with suspected COVID-19, call ACPHD at (510) 267- 3250, Mon-Fri 8:30 am to 5 pm. After hours and on weekends, call Alameda County Fire Dispatch at (925) 422-7595 and ask to speak to the Public Health Duty Officer on call.
- Healthcare providers must complete a [COVID-19-specific Confidential Morbidity Report \(CMR\)](#) for laboratory-confirmed cases and fax to **(510) 273-3944**, or send by secure email to [COVIDreport@acgov.org](mailto:COVIDreport@acgov.org) within 24 hours.
  - Please make sure to report as accurately and completely as possible, including patient occupation and race/ ethnicity. **Providers must include the address and phone number for each reported case to support timely investigation.**
  - Please provide a laboratory report of the positive result when available.
    - If the report is a positive antigen test, the laboratory report **or CMR** must indicate the testing platform (e.g. BD Veritor System, Sofia SARS Antigen FIA).
  - Reports must include information on whether the case is a:
    - Healthcare worker
    - First responder (e.g., police officer, firefighter, or EMS personnel)
    - Resident of a long-term care facility or other congregate setting (e.g., jail, homeless shelter, group home, board, and care)
    - Person who is unhoused or experiencing homelessness
  - CDPH has expanded reporting requirements to include race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity. See [Title 17 Revisions - Provider Letter](#) for more information.
  - Include relevant exposure information in the Additional Remarks section of the **CMR**, such as whether the patient has recently attended a large gathering (e.g., protest) or is linked to a known cluster.

<sup>1</sup> Positive antigen tests using an FDA Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) are reportable. As of August 14, 2020, two antigen tests have received FDA EUA status. See FDA's [In Vitro Diagnostics EUA- Individual EUAs for Antigen Diagnostic Tests for SARS-CoV-2](#) for more information.



**Alameda County Health Care Services Agency**  
**Public Health Department**  
[www.acphd.org](http://www.acphd.org)

Colleen Chawla, Director  
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Public Health Department: Main Line (510) 267-8000

COVID-19 Information: (510) 268-2101

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For more information on blanket isolation orders that apply to all persons diagnosed with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 and blanket quarantine orders that apply to close contacts of cases, please see the [Health Advisory from April 3, 2020](#). The orders and instructions are available in multiple languages on our [website](#).

#### **Local Health Department Contact Information**

- Alameda County Acute Communicable Disease Control:
  - Weekdays 8:30AM – 5PM Phone: (510) 267–3250
  - After-Hours Phone: (925) 422–7595 and ask for the public health duty officer on call
  - For non-immediate concerns, email [nCoV@acgov.org](mailto:nCoV@acgov.org)
- Berkeley Public Health Division:
  - Weekdays 8AM – 5PM Phone: (510) 981–5292
  - After-Hours Phone: (510) 981–5911 and ask for the Health Officer on call
- [Contact Information for all other Local Health Jurisdictions](#) is available online from CDPH