Health Update:

Update: Reporting COVID-19 Cases

April 6, 2020

This document will be updated as new information becomes available. The current version can always be viewed at http://www.health.mo.gov.

The Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services (DHSS) is now using four types of documents to provide important information to medical and public health professionals, and to other interested persons:

Health Alerts convey information of the highest level of importance which warrants immediate action or attention from Missouri health providers, emergency responders, public health agencies or the public.

Health Advisories provide important information for a specific incident or situation, including that impacting neighboring states; may not require immediate action.

Health Guidances contain comprehensive information pertaining to a particular disease or condition, and include recommendations, guidelines, etc. endorsed by DHSS.

Health Updates provide new or updated information on an incident or situation; can also provide information to update a previously sent Health Alert, Health Advisory, or Health Guidance; unlikely to require immediate action.

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Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services

Health Update
April 6, 2020

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SUBJECT: Update: Reporting COVID-19 Cases

Background

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) has been working with partners across the state to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. As of today's report, 2,722 cases of COVID-19 have been reported in Missouri. Several waivers have been granted to statute and rule alike in order to better serve Missourians during this unprecedented event. The purpose of this update is to provide healthcare providers a resource that pulls together multiple waivers that are intended to ensure a robust surveillance system for COVID-19. The rule changes and waivers include the reporting of COVID-19 to DHSS, duplicate reporting of negative results by hospitals, and the reporting of COVID-19 deaths to DHSS.

Reporting Rules Changes and Waivers

Disease Reporting

The State of Missouri has waived certain aspects of communicable disease reporting rules as they apply to COVID-19. 19 CSR 20-20.020 (1), (6), and (8) have been be waived to the extent necessary to have all positive and negative test results for COVID-19 sent only to DHSS. This waiver removes the option for the reporter to send such results to either the local health authority or DHSS. This will remain in place throughout the State of Emergency. This waiver does not limit communication between healthcare providers and local public health agencies (LPHAs) that are investigating COVID-19 cases. This waiver does not prohibit reporting to LPHAs. However, it does mandate that providers must report to DHSS.

Negative Result Reporting by Laboratories Only

Missouri 19 CSR 20-20.020(6) has been waived to the extent that it requires duplicative reporting to DHSS of negative test results for 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) by a hospital and the separate laboratory that conducted the testing. Under this waiver, when the testing is conducted outside the hospital by a separate laboratory that must also report the result to the Department, only the laboratory must make the report. This waiver does not apply to the reporting of cases of COVID-19.

Reporting Death Associated with SARS CoV-2 or Clinically Diagnosed COVID-19

Deaths of individuals with positive laboratory tests for SARS CoV-2 or clinically diagnosed COVID-19 are reportable to DHSS within twenty-four (24) hours. In the event that an individual dies while awaiting COVID-19 test results and a positive result is later confirmed, the death shall be reported to the Department within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the positive confirmation. COVID-19 death reporting is required of the physician in charge of the decedent's care, or by the physician in attendance either at

the time of death or immediately before or after, or when appropriate by the local medical examiner, to ensure that such death is reported at once, without delay, and with a sense of urgency by means of rapid communication to the Department regardless of the day or hour. Death notification can be amended at any time should additional information become available.

Reporting Methods

Healthcare providers in Missouri are asked to complete a standard Disease Case Report (CD-1 Form) for the reporting of **confirmed** and **presumptive** COVID-19 cases. A fully completed and timely submitted CD-1 will help allow for a prompt public health follow-up, and help minimize follow-up requests for additional information. The reporting of **death** in any patient with a positive laboratory test for SARS CoV-2 or clinically diagnosed COVID-19 should also be reported using a CD-1.

If the COVID-19 death is the first report for the case, then only one CD-1 Form is needed to report the COVID-19 case and death; insert "COVID-19 Death" as the disease/condition name and check the corresponding box on the CD-1 Form regarding the death and fill in the date of death. If the case had previously been reported, update and resubmit the original CD-1 with the disease/condition name amended to "COVID-19 Death", check the corresponding box noting death, and include the date of death.

Please consider the following options for the timely submission of completed CD-1 reports for confirmed cases, suspected cases, and deaths of COVID-19:

Fax submissions:
As noted on the CD-1, these can be submitted via fax to 573-751-6417. Please note that this fax line experiences high volume during normal business hours.

SFTP:
For providers that would like to submit reports via Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP), please call 573-526-5271. The SFTP option functions as a secure online folder where files may be submitted with no wait. In order to use this option, at least one contact e-mail address for the submitting organization must be provided. Further instructions will be sent to the indicated e-mail address(es) once an account is set up for the organization.

Phone:
For single COVID-19 death reports, providers have the option to call the Missouri COVID-19 Hotline at 877-435-8411 and convey information verbally to an operator who will complete the CD-1 for the provider. When utilizing this method of reporting, please choose option 2 at the prompt.

General questions about COVID-19 reporting should be directed to DHSS' Bureau of Reportable Disease Informatics at 573-526-5271.

References:

Dual Reporting of Negative COVID-19 Lab Results:
https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/novel-coronavirus/pdf/dual-reporting-of-negative-results.pdf

Reporting Death Associated with SARS CoV-2 or Clinically Diagnosed COVID-19:
https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/novel-coronavirus/pdf/report-of-covid-19-death.pdf

Reporting of COVID-19 Lab Results:
https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/novel-coronavirus/pdf/reporting-of-covid-19-lab-results.pdf