



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

ROBERT GORDON
DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 13, 2020

To: Health Care Providers

From: Joneigh Khaldun, MD, MPH, FACEP
Chief Medical Executive and Chief Deputy for Health
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

As COVID-19 spreads across the United States and in Michigan, health care providers play a crucial role in providing timely information on occurrence and spread of disease to patients, visitors, staff, public health and the general public.

Health care providers are on the front lines of identifying and caring for people with COVID-19. You are asked to provide an appropriate level of care to people impacted by COVID-19 while minimizing the impact of the epidemic on other functions of the health care system. Health care providers are also a crucial partner in public health investigations of communicable disease, including communication of timely information to develop public health recommendations to limit the spread of COVID-19.

As clinicians are now able to order laboratory testing for the virus that causes COVID-19 through commercial labs, it is possible that a health care provider will be aware of a case of COVID-19, before the public health system. **For this reason, we request that health care providers do the following:**

- Continue to fill out the Patient Under Investigation (PUI) form for each patient you are considering for testing for COVID-19. Please fax the completed PUI form to your local health department.
- If you receive a positive laboratory test for a patient at your facility, immediately contact your local health department to expediently inform state and local public health agencies (see attached list).

If your facility is sending specimens to the MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories (BOL) please continue to follow guidance on packaging and shipping located on the BOL website at: www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/lab.

Limiting the impact of COVID-19 on the health and well-being of Michiganders requires collaboration and resources in all sectors. We appreciate your support of these efforts. For the latest information on Michigan's response to COVID-19, please visit www.michigan.gov/coronavirus. You may also email our Community Health Emergency Coordination Center at: checcdeptcoor@michigan.gov.