



COLORADO

Department of Public
Health & Environment

PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER 20-33 **LABORATORY DATA REPORTING FOR COVID-19** **December 1, 2020**

PURPOSE

I issue this Public Health Order (PHO or Order) concerning the reporting of data from all individuals or entities regarding all individuals who have been tested for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) for the purpose of compiling a complete dataset of all COVID-19 testing to have a better understanding of the prevalence of COVID-19 in Colorado.

FINDINGS

On March 11, 2020, Governor Jared Polis issued **Executive Order D 2020 003** declaring a disaster emergency in Colorado regarding COVID-19. COVID-19 spreads from person to person and is thought to be transmitted mainly through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes, similar to how influenza and other respiratory viruses spread. It may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes, but this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads. Persons infected with COVID-19 may become symptomatic anywhere from two to fourteen days after exposure. Symptoms include fever, cough, body aches, fatigue, chest tightness, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, or shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. As of November 29, 2020, 222,772 Coloradans have been diagnosed with COVID-19, 13,428 have been hospitalized and 2,521 Coloradans have died from COVID-19.

Since the emergency declaration, multiple additional executive orders and public health orders have been issued implementing the state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including requiring Coloradans to stay at home unless working for a critical business or government entity that later shifted to a safer at home model, mandating social distancing in all settings, closing schools to in-person learning for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, and a number of other measures intended to slow the spread of disease and ultimately flatten the curve.

In order to successfully flatten the curve and maintain our hospital and public health capacity to fight this pandemic, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and our local public health partners are implementing comprehensive testing and containment strategies, each of which rely on accurate and complete laboratory testing information to understand the scope and spread of COVID-19 in Colorado. Pursuant to section 25-1-122, C.R.S. and 6 CCR 1009-1, Regulation 3 and Appendix A, required reporters must currently immediately report all positive tests results for severe or novel coronavirus. In addition to identifying those who test positive for COVID-19, public health needs to know the total number of individuals tested and all positive, negative and inconclusive test results.

ORDER

1. I hereby order that any individual or entity performing COVID-19 testing of any kind in Colorado, including polymerase chain reaction (PCR), rapid, point of care, antigen and antibody testing, report all test result information to CDPHE pertaining to all individuals tested for COVID-19 as set forth below. CDPHE will provide the reporting platforms and the form and format for submission of the required information, which may be modified as the response to this pandemic evolves. As required by section 25-1-122, C.R.S., all patient identifying information collected pursuant to this Order is confidential and will not be shared publicly. All laboratories, local public health agencies, providers, point of care testing services, and any other entity performing COVID-19 testing of any kind shall report all test result information or be in process to report all test result information to CDPHE by January 2, 2021.

2. All individuals or entities performing COVID-19 testing of any kind shall report all test results to CDPHE, in a form and format determined by CDPHE, for each specimen tested for COVID-19, which shall include:

- A. Patient Information
 - 1. Name, address including street address, city, state and zip code, county, telephone number and
 - 2. Date of birth, sex, race, and ethnicity;
- B. Provider Information
 - 1. Name of ordering provider
 - 2. Name of clinic/facility and address, including street address, city, state, and zip code, and
 - 3. Telephone number;
- C. Test Information
 - 1. Name of disease or condition
 - 2. Name of facility performing the test,
 - 3. The specimen type and date of collection,
 - 4. The type of test completed and the date of the result of the test, and
 - 5. The test result, including quantitative values and reference ranges, if applicable; and
- D. Any other information deemed necessary by CDPHE relative to the specimen collected and the test result.

3. All entities required in paragraph 2 of this Order to report COVID-19 test result information shall report through CDPHE's electronic laboratory reporting (ELR) platform. For entities that cannot report through the ELR platform, electronic submission of the information required in paragraph 2 shall occur through HL7 or CDPHE-approved flat file format via secure file transfer protocol (FTP), via the CDPHE web-based reporting portal, or other CDPHE-approved method. If you are not already reporting by one of the above electronic

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methods or are in process, please complete the COVID reporting guidance inquiry form which can be found on our website (<https://forms.gle/41HcxJAYFtxPxASB7>).

This Order is effective on December 1, 2020 and will continue to be in effect until D 2020 003, as amended and extended, expires or is otherwise terminated, unless rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing.



Jill Hunsaker Ryan, MPH
Executive Director

December 1, 2020

Date

