



Protecting, Maintaining and Improving the Health of All Minnesotans

Notification Letter to Minnesota Health Care Providers, Hospitals, and Clinical Laboratories Regarding Reporting of COVID-19/SAR-CoV-2 Infections

March 3, 2020

Dear Mandated Reporter,

This letter is to inform you that the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) is requiring all mandated reporters, which includes both health care providers and laboratories to report any cases, suspected cases, carriers, and deaths due to SARS-CoV-2 to MDH within one working day. MDH is conducting this surveillance per Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4605.7050. Specifically, Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4605.7050, Subpart 1 requires that, "Any pattern of cases, suspected cases, or increased incidence of any illness beyond the expected number of cases in a given period, which may indicate a newly recognized infectious agent, an outbreak, epidemic, emerging drug resistance, or public health hazard, . . . be reported immediately by telephone, by the person having knowledge, to the commissioner. Subpart 3, also says that, "[u]pon request of the commissioner, medical laboratories shall submit test results and clinical materials for cases and suspected cases reported under subparts 1 and 2 to the Minnesota Department of Health, Public Health Laboratory."

In addition, upon request from the Commissioner, each reporting facility shall provide access to additional information from all medical, pathological, and other pertinent records related to COVID-19 diagnosis and follow-up for the purposes of surveillance and infection prevention and control per Minnesota Rules 4605.7090. Epidemiologists review select patient medical records using a standardized case report form that is used to collect basic demographic information and risk factors of epidemiologic or infection prevention concern.

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Richard Danila at 651-201-5414 or Richard.Danila@state.mn.us. More information can also be found at <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp.html>. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Malcom', written in a cursive style.

Jan K. Malcom
Commissioner
P.O. Box 64975
St. Paul, MN 55164-0975