



Health Advisory:

Clinicians Must Report Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Cases to Public Health

April 30, 2020

SITUATION

Per Title 17 Section 2500 of the California Code of Regulations, cases of COVID-19 must be reported by clinicians to the local health officer for the jurisdiction (county) where the patient resides.

SFDPH has created a Confidential Morbidity Report (CMR) form specific to COVID-19 cases, available at <http://www.sfcddcp.org/covid19cmr>.

Given the unprecedented impact COVID-19 has had on our communities, San Francisco's ability to effectively tackle COVID-19 is dependent on a coordinated city-wide response – including providers' reporting of COVID-19 cases. Certain communities – including those of racial minority groups, those living in congregate housing, and persons experiencing homelessness – are bearing a disproportionate burden of COVID-19 illness and death. Completeness of reporting – especially ethnicity, race, gender identity, and address, or whether the patient is unhoused - will enable SFDPH to more effectively and equitably guide clinical and public health interventions. Please fill in the demographic and housing fields on the form as completely and accurately as you can.

In addition, providers are asked to assist with identifying household contacts, intimate partner contacts, and any other close contacts who were in close proximity to the case (less than 6 feet away for more than 10 minutes) starting from 48 hours before symptom onset.

ACTIONS REQUIRED OF CLINICIANS

For the following categories of suspected OR lab-confirmed COVID-19 cases, please immediately call the SFDPH COVID-19 Clinical Consultation Line at (415) 554-2830 to report:

- Fatal confirmed case
- Case who is a patient or staff in a long-term care or skilled nursing facility
- Case who is experiencing homelessness, and/or living in congregate settings such as shelters, navigation centers, SROs, group residential, or correctional facilities
- A cluster of 3 or more cases in health care workers at the same facility
- A cluster of 3 or more cases of unexplained pneumonia or deaths in a congregate setting not listed above



For **lab-confirmed COVID-19 cases**, please submit case reports within 24 hours of diagnosis by email or fax to SFDPH:

- Download a COVID-19 CMR from www.sfcddcp.org/covid19cmr
- Complete all relevant fields
- Send the complete form and supporting laboratory results via secure/encrypted email to cdcontrol@sfdph.org or fax both documents to **(415) 554-2848**

Program Contact Information:

Communicable Disease Control Unit

Disease Prevention and Control Branch, Population Health Division

Tel: (415) 554-2830

Email: cdcontrol@sfdph.org

Fax: (415) 554-2848

<https://www.sfcddcp.org/>