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Please copy and distribute to ALL physicians at your location.

Modification to Use of COVID-19 Confidential Morbidity Report (CMR)

Clinicians will **no longer need to submit a COVID-19 specific CMR to Public Health** for patients with a negative SARS-CoV-2 test if there is a low clinical suspicion for COVID-19.

A COVID-19 specific **CMR will now only need to be submitted to Public Health** for the following:

- 1) Patients who have a lab-confirmed positive PCR *or* antibody test for SARS-CoV-2
- 2) Patients with a negative SARS-CoV-2 PCR but a high clinical suspicion of COVID-19 (i.e. a critically ill patient with a respiratory illness and imaging and lab findings consistent with COVID-19)
- 3) Patients suspected of having Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C)*

Providers may consider ordering antibody testing 2+ weeks after symptom onset for patients with a clinical picture consistent with COVID-19 but persistently negative SARS-CoV-2 PCR tests.

Note: laboratories are still required to submit negative SARS-CoV-2 results to Public Health electronically.

*Case definition of MIS-C:

- An individual aged <21 years presenting with fever (temperature $\geq 38.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ for ≥ 24 hours, or report of subjective fever lasting ≥ 24 hours), laboratory evidence of inflammation (including, but not limited to, one or more of the following: an elevated CRP, ESR, fibrinogen, procalcitonin, d-dimer, ferritin, LDH, or IL-6, elevated neutrophils, reduced lymphocytes and low albumin), and evidence of clinically severe illness requiring hospitalization, with multisystem (≥ 2) organ involvement (cardiac, renal, respiratory, hematologic, gastrointestinal, dermatologic or neurological); AND
- No alternative plausible diagnoses; AND
- Positive for current or recent SARS-CoV-2 infection by RT-PCR, serology, or antigen test; or exposure to a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case within the 4 weeks prior to the onset of symptoms.

The COVID-19 CMR, "Notification from Medical Provider of COVID-19 Laboratory Results", can be accessed at: http://www.vchca.org/images/public_health/CD/VTA_County_COVID_CMV_RE.pdf It is a fillable PDF that can be e-mailed to vcph-id@ventura.org.

For reporting questions, please contact the Communicable Disease team (805-981-5201). For questions regarding specimen collection, processing, and handling call the Public Health Laboratory at 805-981-5131.

This bulletin is intended to improve the public health in our county by keeping physicians and nurses informed of noteworthy diagnoses, disease trends and other events of medical interest. Another goal of a public health department is to educate. We hope that you will use this information to increase your awareness. Please allow us to continue in our role of speaking to the press so that we may maximize the educational message to the benefit of all citizens of Ventura County.

Communicable Disease Office

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