

Date: July 13, 2020
To: Medical Care Providers
From: Julie Vaishampayan, MD, MPH, Health Officer

Please distribute to all providers and relevant medical staff in your office.

Health Alert

Healthcare Providers to Provide Stanislaus County Health Officer Isolation and Quarantine Orders and Instructions to Patients with Suspected/Confirmed COVID-19

As of July 12, 2020, 4,973 cases of COVID-19, have been reported in Stanislaus County residents. There has been a tremendous increase starting mid-June, with over 2,600 cases reported in the past two weeks. With this large increase, public health cannot reach every person within 24 hours to instruct on the need for isolation.

On April 7, 2020, the Health Officer issued blanket isolation orders (amended April 28, 2020 and July 5, 2020) for all persons diagnosed with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 and blanket quarantine orders (amended July 5) for close contacts of cases. Both orders have accompanying guidance with specific instructions on how to isolate or quarantine. In order to control spread, Stanislaus County Public Health requires health care partners to disseminate blanket orders to all patients being tested for COVID-19 or who are presumptively diagnosed with COVID-19 without testing BEFORE they leave the health care facility.

Public Health greatly appreciate your assistance with getting these orders and instructions to your patients immediately, to prevent ongoing community transmission.

ACTIONS REQUESTED OF CLINICIANS:

1. Print out and give the Stanislaus County Health Officer Isolation and Quarantine Orders and Guidance Documents to all patients being tested for COVID-19 or in whom you strongly suspect COVID-19 but will not be testing. The documents are posted at <http://schsa.org/corona-virus/ph-order/> and are available in English and Spanish.
2. Place a patient identification sticker or handwrite the patient's name on the Health Officer Order of Isolation.
3. Instruct your patients to:
 - a. Self-isolate at home while waiting for the results of COVID-19 testing (if being tested);
 - b. Adhere to the Health Officer Order of Isolation if their COVID-19 test results are positive or if you diagnose them with COVID-19 without laboratory testing;
 - c. If diagnosed with COVID-19, inform their household members, intimate partners and in-home caregivers. They must also provide those individuals with the Health Officer Order of Quarantine, and the Home Quarantine Instructions
4. Report all patients placed in isolation through the usual Communicable Disease Reporting. CMRs can be found at <http://schsa.org/PublicHealth/pdf/communicableDiseases/cdph110a-CMR.pdf>.

If you have any questions, please call Public Health at (209) 558-5678.