



**PROVIDER HEALTH ALERT UPDATE -JULY 31, 2020**  
**HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS TO CONTINUE TO DISSEMINATE CONTRA COSTA**  
**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE ORDERS TO**  
**PATIENTS WITH CONFIRMED OR SUSPECT COVID-19 AND CLOSE CONTACTS AT**  
**TIME OF TESTING AND WITH TEST RESULTS**

Cases of COVID-19 have continued to increase in Contra Costa County and mitigation strategies such as social distancing, isolation of ill individuals, and quarantine of close contacts are important factors **for containing the spread of** COVID-19. Due to their importance, health officers orders have been issued for social distancing and face coverings, along with blanket isolation and quarantine orders: <https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/health-orders> .

On April 3, 2020, due to increasing cases at that time, Contra Costa Public Health Department directed health care partners to disseminate the blanket isolation orders that apply to all persons diagnosed with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, and blanket quarantine orders that apply to close contacts of cases.

As the number of COVID-19 cases continue to rise and test turnaround times begin to increase, Contra Costa County Public Health Department is not able to individually notify and track everyone with COVID-19, and their close contacts who may have been exposed, in a timely matter, and it is becoming more imperative for these orders and instructions to be given at time of testing and again discussed with test results. These blanket orders should be given to all patients who are being tested for COVID-19, outside of surveillance testing done with no known concerns or symptoms, or who are presumptively diagnosed with COVID-19 without testing, **BEFORE** they leave the health care facility/testing site and again when discussing testing results. In addition, quarantine of close or household contacts should be discussed, and the blanket quarantine orders should be given to patients for their close or household contacts. Close contacts who are asymptomatic healthcare workers maybe asked to work while being closely monitored if employers have staffing needs requiring them to work. Given this, healthcare workers should follow [Instructions for Healthcare Workers that are Close Contacts or Household Members to a COVID-19 Case.](#)

We greatly appreciate your assistance with getting these orders and instructions to your patients in order to slow further community transmission, protect vulnerable individuals, and prevent the healthcare system in the county from being overwhelmed.





### Actions Requested of Healthcare Professionals:

**1. Prioritize COVID-19 testing** as noted in CDPH testing guidance:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Updated-COVID-19-Testing-Guidance.aspx>

**2. Print out and given: isolation orders and quarantine orders, along with isolation instructions and quarantine instructions** to all patients you are testing for COVID-19 or to patients whom you believe have COVID-19 but are not testing.

- Orders can be found: <https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/health-orders>,
- instructions for isolation and quarantine can be found: <https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/for-covid-19-patients>, and
- Provider updates can be found at <https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/healthcare-providers>

**3. Instruct your patients to:**

- Self-isolate at home while waiting for the results of COVID-19 testing (if being tested);
- 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;
- Follow the Home Isolation and Quarantine Instructions;
- If diagnosed with COVID-19, inform their household members, intimate partners and in-home caregivers.
  - i. If patients are awaiting results and their contact develop symptoms, they should have their contact isolate at home per the home isolation instructions.

