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Please copy and distribute to ALL physicians at your location.

Announcing new COVID-19 Specific Confidential Morbidity Report for use by Ventura County Providers in Reporting Suspect and Confirmed Cases of COVID-19

We have developed a COVID-19 specific CMR. This form is for use in reporting suspect and confirmed cases of COVID-19 only. The new form was adapted from a Los Angeles County CMR for reporting suspect and confirmed COVID-19 cases. We believe the new CMR will simplify COVID-19 case reporting, while meeting our need for accurate data with which to conduct case investigations and perform epidemiologic analysis.

The new 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_CMAR_RE.pdf. It is a fillable PDF that can be e-mailed to vcph-id@ventura.org. When there is a positive test, the lab will call the ordering physician immediately. If the patient is hospitalized, and the physician is unavailable, the lab will call the infection control nurse or the hospital lab. This process will facilitate the timely notification of COVID-19 results to both the provider and to public health.

The PHL will accept sputum samples on patients who are intubated; the specimen should be placed in a sterile cup with no chemical treatment at time of collection.

For reporting questions, feel free to contact Communicable Disease (805-981-5201). For questions regarding specimen collection, processing, and handling call the PHL at (805-981-5131).

We appreciate everything you do to provide medical care and laboratory support in challenging circumstances. We will continue to partner with you to improve reporting as a way to make all of our jobs a bit less difficult.

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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