



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Bureau for Public Health
Commissioner's Office

FILED

2020 APR 16 P 4:41

Bill J. Crouch
Cabinet Secretary

OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA
Catherine C. Slemp, MD, MPH
Commissioner & State Health Officer

ORDER REGARDING
COVID-19 AS A REPORTABLE DISEASE OR CONDITION

The Commissioner of the Bureau for Public Health has determined that due to an outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), and subsequent declaration of a state of emergency by the Governor, that the outbreak constitutes a public health emergency, that it requires public health follow up, and that the collection of data or other information on the disease can assist in determining the need for or effectively implementing public health programs to protect and promote the health of the people of West Virginia.

Further, that on March 5, 2020, the Commissioner entered an Order amending the Legislative Rule titled *Reportable Diseases, Events and Conditions* to include the COVID-19 as a Category I.A. reportable disease in accordance with W. Va. Code R. §64-7-3.3.b.

And now, based upon the foregoing and in accordance with the provisions of W. Va. Code §§16-3-1 *et seq.* and W. Va. Code R. §64-7-3.1.a, which authorizes the Commissioner to add or delete a disease or condition in any category of the rule, the Commissioner does hereby ORDER as follows:

1. That each laboratory required to report in accordance with W. Va. Code R. §64-7 shall be a validated submitter to the WVHIN or WVEDSS, and shall provide immediate real time electronic laboratory reporting in accordance with W. Va. Code R. §64-7.3.3.a.1., *provided*, that laboratories may continue processing test results while they become registered submitters to the WVHIN or WVEDSS, which registration for electronic reporting and progress toward validation must be initiated within three business days of the effective date of this Order;
2. That each laboratory required to report in accordance with W. Va. Code R. §64-7 shall immediately report to the Bureau negative and positive results of each COVID-19 antibody or virus detection test performed, and shall continue to report positive results to the local health department;
3. That in furtherance of compliance with this rule, all health care providers shall, to the greatest extent practicable, utilize laboratories capable of electronic reporting;
4. That this Order shall be effective immediately upon its filing with the Office of the Secretary of State; and

5. That this Order shall be made as an Appendix to W. Va. Code R. §64-7-1 *et seq.* until such time as the Legislature amends the rule series pursuant to W. Va. Code §§29A-3-1 *et seq.*

ENTERED THIS DATE:

April 16, 2020

BY:

Catherine C. Slemp
Catherine C. Slemp, MD, MPH
Commissioner and State Health Officer
Bureau for Public Health

OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

2020 APR 16 P 4: 42

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