



Eric J. Holcomb
Governor

Kristina M. Box, MD, FACOG
State Health Commissioner

STATE HEALTH COMMISSIONER'S ORDER #CO-21-01

Updated Requirements for Reporting COVID-19 Information to the Department of Health

- WHEREAS, on March 6, 2020, Governor Eric J. Holcomb issued Executive Order 20-02, which declared that a public health emergency exists throughout the State of Indiana as a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 ("COVID-19") and most recently renewed in Executive Order 21-16;
- WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 to be a global pandemic and, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency with respect to this dangerous virus;
- WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory illness that can be spread from person to person. COVID-19 is thought to be spread mainly between people who are in close contact and prolonged contact with one another (about 6 feet) through respiratory droplets produced by an infected individual. COVID-19 may also be spread by touching a surface object that has virus on it and then touching one's own mouth, nose, or eyes. COVID-19 seems to be spreading easily and sustainably in the community;
- WHEREAS, the Indiana Department of Health ("Department") requires information concerning COVID-19 to be reported by health care providers as soon as possible to provide timely intervention and direction to the State's response to the public health emergency;
- WHEREAS, contact tracing in congregate settings, including K-12 educational institutions, long-term care facilities, jails, and prisons is necessary to help stop the spread of COVID-19 in those institutions;
- WHEREAS, Under the authority granted to the Department in Ind. Code 16-19-3-9 to "do what is reasonable and necessary for the prevention and suppression of disease"; Ind. Code 16-41-2-1 requiring the reporting of communicable disease information and issuing control measures for reportable conditions; and Executive Order 20-02 which requires health care providers to cooperate with the Indiana Department of Health in its response to the declared public health emergency.

To **promote**, **protect**, and **improve** the health and safety of all Hoosiers.



THEREFORE, I, Kristina Box, MD, FACOG, State Health Commissioner, do hereby order the following:

1. All laboratories performing COVID-19 PCR testing for residents of Indiana shall report all negative COVID-19 test results, in addition to the positive results already required to be reported, to the Department in a manner prescribed by the Department, within twenty-four (24) hours of completing the test.
2. All laboratories performing COVID-19 antibody testing for residents in Indiana shall report the results of all tests for IgM, IgG, and IgA for COVID-19 antibodies to the Department, in a manner prescribed by the Department, within twenty-four (24) hours of completing the test.
3. All laboratories performing COVID-19 antigen testing for residents in Indiana shall report the results of all tests for COVID-19 antigen to the Department, in a manner prescribed by the Department, within twenty-four (24) hours of completing the test.
4. All long-term care facilities, jails, prisons, or other congregate housing facilities are required to report positive COVID-19 test results for all patients, residents, offenders, and employees, upon first notification of receipt of positive result to the Department in a manner prescribed by the Department.
5. All long-term care facilities, jails, prisons, or other congregate housing facilities are required to report any COVID-19 related deaths or suspected COVID-19 related deaths of patients, residents, offenders, and employees to the Department within twenty-four (24) hours of the facilities' knowledge of the death in a manner prescribed by the Department.
6. All K-12 educational institutions are required to report all known positive COVID-19 cases in students and staff upon first notification of each case in a manner prescribed by the Department in accordance with the Department's control measures for COVID-19.
7. This order supersedes and replaces the previous order #CO-20-03 issued on this subject, dated June 1, 2020.

SO ORDERED.



Kristina M. Box, MD, FACOG
State Health Commissioner
Indiana Department of Health



Date