

No. 2025-03-01 OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

ORDER OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

COVID-19 Reporting Requirements

Original Issue Date: Thursday, March 30, 2023

Revision Date: Friday, January 31, 2025

Effective at 12:01am on Monday, February 03, 2025

Brief Highlights (Revisions are highlighted in yellow):

1/31/2025:

- Retains the requirement that hospitals continue reporting COVID-19 hospitalizations to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) using the COVID-19 Hospitalization Electronic Surveillance System (CHESS).
- Returns COVID-19 case reporting requirements for all mandated reporters to current State regulatory requirements for reporting COVID-19 cases to the local health officer. See, Title 17, California Code of Regulations, section 2500(j) for healthcare providers; section 2505 for laboratories; and section 2508 for schools and early childhood education facilities.
- Rescinds the specific COVID-19 case and cluster reporting requirements for Workplace Settings (employers), Skilled Nursing Facilities, Congregate Healthcare Facilities; Community Congregate Settings (Community Care Facilities and Congregate Residential Settings, and Educational Facilities.
- Employers are reminded that Subsection 3205(j) of the CalOSHA COVID-19 Prevention regulations, which deals with reporting and recordkeeping, remains in effect until February 3, 2026. It continues requiring that employers keep a record of and track all COVID-19 cases with the employee's name, contact information, occupation, location where the employee worked, the date of the last day at the workplace, and the date of the positive COVID-19 test and/or COVID-19 diagnosis. The records must be retained for two years beyond the period in which the record is necessary to meet the requirements of this section. It also requires that information on COVID-19 cases be provided to the local health department with jurisdiction over the workplace, CDPH, CalOSHA, and NIOSH, immediately upon request, and when required by law.

Please read this Order carefully.

Summary of the Order:

It remains important to continue public health surveillance¹ efforts to understand trends in COVID-19 infections and the impact they may be having in the community. The reporting of patient-level data for COVID-19 positive hospitalized inpatients plays a critical role in helping the Los Angeles

¹ *Public health surveillance* is defined as "the ongoing, systematic collection, analysis, and interpretation of health-related data essential to planning, implementation, and evaluation of public health practice." Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). *Introduction to Public Health Surveillance*. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/training/publichealth101/surveillance.html>. Accessed on 3/29/2023.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER



County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) conduct ongoing surveillance and assess and forecast severity and determine response strategies. Accordingly, this County Health Officer Order (Order) continues the requirement for hospitals to report COVID-19 hospitalizations to LACDPH via the COVID-19 Hospitalization Electronic Surveillance System (CHESS).

This Order is effective within the County of Los Angeles Public Health Jurisdiction, defined as all cities and unincorporated areas within the County of Los Angeles, except for the cities of Long Beach and Pasadena that must follow their respective City Health Officer orders and guidance.

**UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE (HSC)
SECTION 120175; CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS (CCR) TITLE 17,
SECTIONS 2500, 2501, 2505, 2508; AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY CODE,
SECTION 11.04.010
THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES HEALTH OFFICER ORDERS:**

- 1) Purpose.** COVID-19 continues to spread, change, and pose a risk to persons within Los Angeles County. It remains important to maintain public health surveillance of COVID-19. This Order maintains the requirement that hospitals report COVID-19 hospitalizations to LACDPH via the COVID-19 Hospitalization Electronic Surveillance System (CHESS). This ongoing hospitalization reporting requirement provides local situational awareness of any changes in COVID-19 infection patterns and levels.
- 2) Intent.** The primary intent of this Order is to continue the COVID-19 hospitalization reporting requirements to allow for ongoing situational awareness of COVID-19. This Order does not alter any additional COVID-19 reporting obligation under federal or California statutory or regulatory law.
- 3) Interpretation.** All provisions of this Order must be interpreted to effectuate the purpose and intent of this Order as described above. The summary at the beginning of this Order as well as the headings and subheadings of sections contained in this Order are for convenience only and may not be used to interpret this Order. In the event of any inconsistency between the summary, headings, or subheadings and the text of this Order, the text will control.
- 4) Facilities Subject to this Order.** This Order applies to the following facilities and sites within the County Public Health Jurisdiction, as detailed in this Section.
 - a) **Healthcare Facilities.** Healthcare Facilities subject to this Order include the following facilities or settings:
 - i) Acute Care Hospitals
- 5) Definitions.** For purposes of this Order, the following terms have the meanings given below:
 - a) **COVID-19.** COVID-19 means coronavirus disease 2019, the disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus.
 - b) **COVID-19 Case.** A person who:
 - i) Has a positive viral test (i.e., a PCR or antigen test, including self-administered and self-read tests) for COVID-19 and/or
 - ii) Has a positive COVID-19 diagnosis from a licensed healthcare provider.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER



6) Hospital Reporting Requirements.

a) All hospitals must:

- i) Report all COVID-19 positive hospitalized inpatients to LACDPH on a routine basis via the COVID-19 Hospitalization Electronic Surveillance System (CHES) following updated reporting guidance accessible here: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/docs/HospCOVIDReportingGuide.pdf>
- ii) Designate a liaison in their facility to coordinate and communicate with LACDPH regarding COVID-19 CHES reporting.
- iii) More details on how to report are available at <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/clinicians/report/>

7) **Severability.** If any subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Order or any application of it to any person, structure, gathering, or circumstance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, then such decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portions or applications of this Order.

8) **Amendments to Order.** This Order may be revised in the future in response to evolving public health conditions. Should local COVID-19 conditions warrant, the County Health Officer may issue orders that are more protective than the guidance and orders issued by the State Public Health Officer.

9) **Statutory Authority.** This Order is issued pursuant to California Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 120175; California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 17, sections 2500, 2501, 2505, 2508; and Los Angeles County Code, Section 11.04.010.

10) **Effective Date.** This Order shall become effective at 12:01am **Monday, February 03, 2025**, and will continue to be until it is revised, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the County Health Officer.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

1/31/2025

Muntu Davis, M.D., M.P.H.

County Health Officer,
County of Los Angeles

Date Revised