ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA

AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO HEALTH OFFICER ORDER NO. HO-COVID19-15

REQUIRING MONTHLY COVID-19 TESTING OF PERSONNEL AT CERTAIN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

ORDER NO. HO-COVID19-19

DATE OF ORDER: JUNE 22, 2020

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 101040 and 120175, THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA (“HEALTH OFFICER”) ORDERS:

Amendment No. 1. Subsection 5.c.iv. of Health Officer Order No. HO-COVID19-15 is hereby amended to read as follows, effectively immediately:

iv. Except as otherwise directed by the Department, a Facility shall arrange to test all consenting Facility Personnel no later than July 6, 2020. After completing this first round of testing, Facilities shall arrange to test all consenting Facility Personnel on a monthly basis, with testing staggered so that approximately 25 percent of Facility Personnel are tested each week. In a Facility with a positive COVID-19 case, the Facility shall implement response-driven testing based on Department guidance, including all of the following:

(a) As soon as possible after a COVID-19 positive Resident or member of Facility’s Personnel is identified in a Facility, all Residents who tested negative upon initial testing should be serially retested every seven days until no new cases are identified in two sequential rounds of testing. At that point, the Facility may resume its regular surveillance testing schedule for Facility Personnel. If a Resident tests positive, no additional testing is needed for that Resident.
(b) Place Residents into the following three separate cohorts based on the test results: (i) positive result; (ii) negative result but exposed within the last 14 days or refused testing or awaiting testing results; and (iii) negative result without known exposure within the last 14 days.

(c) The COVID-19 positive cohort should be housed in a separate area (building, unit or wing) of the Facility and have dedicated Facility Personnel who do not provide care for Residents in other cohorts and use separate break rooms and restrooms if possible.

(d) As soon as possible after a COVID-19 positive Resident or member of Facility’s Personnel is identified in a Facility, all consenting Facility Personnel should be serially retested every seven days until no new cases are identified in two sequential rounds of testing. At that point, the Facility may then resume its regular surveillance testing schedule. In the event that testing capacity is not sufficient to serially retest Facility Personnel according to the above schedule, testing priority should be given to Facility Personnel who worked on the unit with COVID-19 positive Residents, or are known to work at other facilities with cases of COVID-19.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

Chris Farnitano, M.D.
Health Officer of the County of Contra Costa

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June 22, 2020

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