



Director's Journal Entry

Re: Second Amended Reporting Requirements for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Under Ohio Revised Code 3701.14 and 3701.23

I, Lance Himes, Interim Director of the Ohio Department of Health, in accordance with my authority set forth in Sections 3701.14 and 3701.23 of the Ohio Revised Code, amend the order of April 8, 2020, declaring 2019 - novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV, known as COVID-19), a disease of major public concern.

To protect the people and prevent the spread of contagious or infectious agents, I order that:

- **Confirmed and Probable** cases of COVID-19 be reported within twenty-four (24) hours to the local health district in which the person resides (or the local health district wherein the person is being medically evaluated if the person's residence is unknown or not in Ohio).
- Reports shall be by:
 - The physician or other healthcare provider in attendance of a known or suspected case;
 - A person in charge of a hospital, clinic, or other institution providing care, treatment, or having knowledge of a reportable confirmed or probable case pursuant to Ohio Adm. Code 3701-3-03;
 - Any individual having knowledge of a person suffering from COVID-19.
 - The person in charge of any laboratory that examines specimens of human origin for evidence of COVID-19 infection shall electronically report within twenty-four (24) hours the results of all such examination, including, but not limited to positive, negative, invalid, and inconclusive, in the manner set forth by the Director and according to the protocols outlined for [COVID-19 reporting](#) on the ODH Electronic Laboratory Reporting website.

Physicians and other healthcare providers should contact their governing health jurisdiction to obtain the most current case definition and guidance for the management and containment of COVID-19.

Local health districts that receive reports of confirmed cases shall report cases to the Ohio Department of Health pursuant to Ohio R.C. 3701.23 and Ohio Adm. Code 3701-3-06. The purpose of these requirements is to effectively control and suppress the spread of infectious agents, pursuant to Ohio R.C. 3701.14.

October 20, 2020

Lance D. Himes,
Interim Director of Health