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To: San Mateo County Hospitals and Healthcare Facilities

From: Travis Kusman, MPH, Paramedic, EMS Director
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Subject: Required Notification of Reportable Infectious Disease to Prehospital Emergency Medical Personnel

Authority: Health and Safety Code Sections 1797.188 (as amended by SB 432) and Title 17, California Code of Regulations, Section 2500 Reportable Disease and Conditions:
           https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB432

In accordance with Health and Safety Code Section 1797.188 and Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations, hospitals and healthcare facilities must notify prehospital emergency medical care personnel who have provided emergency medical or rescue services, and who have been exposed to a person afflicted with a reportable disease or condition.

For each case, facilities shall directly contact the ambulance, fire department, law enforcement and / or lifeguard agency Designated Infection Control Officer (DICO) for both initial notification and follow up / loop closure. Please note that this notification does not relieve facilities and healthcare providers of their reporting requirements to the Public Health Department for reportable diseases and conditions.

Attached is contact information for San Mateo County 911 system ambulance and fire department Designated Infection Control Officers. The names of the San Mateo County ambulance and fire department agencies having served a patient can be found within the prehospital Electronic Patient Care Report (ePCR). The easiest way to access this information is within the AMR MEDS Viewer.

Instructions regarding how authorized healthcare facility infection control personnel can gain access to the AMR MEDS Viewer for patients transported to your facility can be found by clicking on the following link: AMR MEDS Viewer. A one-page tutorial outlining how to access the “merged” ePCR which will indicate both fire and ambulance transport agencies associated with each patient can be found by clicking on the following link: AMR MEDS Viewer tips. By following this process, hospitals can identify the responding agencies and their associated Designated Infection Control Officers and will be able to directly make the required notifications.

Thank you in advance for sharing this information with those personnel within your facilities authorized to access patient information and responsible for mandatory reporting of reportable diseases or conditions.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact EMS staff at HS_EMS_PH_MHOAC@smcgov.org.