

## HEALTH ALERT

### Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19): Standardized Surveillance Case Definition and Reporting Update

April 8, 2020

Update from Health Alerts released April 1, 2020

#### Summary and Action Items

- On April 5, 2020, the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) Executive Board approved a position statement, [Interim-20-ID-01](#), creating a standardized case definition for COVID-19 confirmed and probable cases, and recommending the addition of COVID-19 to the list of nationally notifiable conditions.
- To address the evolving response, the Director of the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) has issued an amended Director's Journal Entry with updated reporting requirements for COVID-19. This updated document is attached.
- For **confirmed or probable** cases of COVID-19, healthcare providers or any individual having knowledge, should notify their local health department (LHD) **within 24 hours of case identification**.
- LHDs who are notified of **confirmed or probable** cases of COVID-19 should notify ODH **within the same 24 hours of case identification** via entry into the Ohio Disease Reporting System (ODRS).

#### Implementation of Standardized Surveillance Case Definition

CSTE has created a standardized surveillance case definition for COVID-19 available [here](#). Criteria for case ascertainment and definitions for case classification are included. The ODH Infectious Disease Control Manual will be updated to reflect these updated case classifications.

**At this time, both confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 are required to be reported within 24 hours of case identification and entered into the [Ohio Disease Reporting System \(ODRS\)](#) for follow-up.** To prioritize response efforts for both healthcare and public health systems, retrospective classification of probable cases is not required.

#### Management of Confirmed and Probable Cases

Confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 should be managed according to CDC guidance for patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19. This includes but is not limited to: recommendations for [community-related exposure](#), [infection prevention and control measures \(including the use of appropriate personal protective equipment\)](#), [discontinuation of isolation](#), and [return to work criteria for healthcare personnel](#).

#### Contact

Report all confirmed or probable cases of COVID-19 within 24 hours of identification to the local health department in the jurisdiction in which the case resides. To locate a local health department, please visit <https://odhgateway.odh.ohio.gov/lhdinformationsystem/Directory/GetMyLHD>.

For general questions related to COVID-19, healthcare providers and facilities should contact their local health department. Ohio local health departments should contact the ODH Bureau of Infectious Diseases at 614-995-5599. ***For testing at ODH Laboratory, contact the ODH Bureau of Infectious Diseases at 614-995-5599.***

**Attachments**

- Updated Director's Journal Entry (April 8, 2020)
- CSTE COVID-19 Case Definition Interim-20-ID-01 (April 5, 2020)