

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)