DATE: May 27, 2020

TO: Clinical Laboratories

FROM: Dr. Simon P. Paul, Madera County Public Health Officer

RE: Standing Order to Expand COVID-19 Testing Accessibility

In response to the state of emergency regarding the outbreak of a novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, and in order to maintain the health and safety of the people of Madera County and limit the further spread of infection, as the Madera County Health Officer, I am issuing this Standing Order to expand COVID-19 testing accessibility within the County.

This Standing Order instructs clinical laboratories to accept assignments for COVID-19 diagnostic tests from individuals who (1) are determined to be in need of testing by the County Health Officer, and (2) whose specimens are collected under Optum Serve/Logistic’s Health Inc. services, as contracted for by the State of California. The results of such tests shall constitute protected health information and shall be timely shared with: the tested individual (via Optum Serve/Logistic’s Health Inc.), the appropriate Local Health Officer, and the California Department of Public Health. All test results shall be shared with the Local Health Officer and the California Department of Public Health in accordance with the State’s mandated laboratory reporting laws, and shall include race/ethnicity data fields.


Simon Paul, MD
Public Health Officer