



Technical Bulletin



Date: March 5, 2020
Topic: Coronavirus: *Reporting of Extraordinary occurrence of illness, NRS 441A.120 and NAC 441A.085*
Contact: Office of Public Health Investigations and Epidemiology (OPHIE), 775-684-5911
To: Health Care Providers, Medical Facilities, and Medical Laboratories

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), along with other international, federal, state, and local agencies are responding to the growing outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel (new) coronavirus that was first detected in China and which has now been detected in over seventy locations internationally, including in the United States. The virus has been abbreviated to COVID-19. Today, Nevada had the first presumptive positive case reported.

Effective immediately, all providers of healthcare, healthcare facilities, and medical laboratories must report all suspect, probable and confirmed cases of COVID-19 and all laboratory test results to the Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) or Local Health District/Department (Southern Nevada Health District, Washoe County Health District, and Carson City Health and Human Services) using Nevada's Confidential Morbidity Report Form, located online: http://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/OPHIE/Public_Health_Informatics_and_Epidemiology_-_Home/

Please note this must be reported immediately for confirmed cases and for suspect cases that are still awaiting laboratory confirmation.

Reporting of COVID-19 is required under NRS 441A.120 and NAC 441A.108, subsection 2, c.

NAC 441A.085 "Extraordinary occurrence of illness" defined. (NRS 441A.120) "Extraordinary occurrence of illness" means:

1. A disease which is not endemic to this State, is unlikely but has the potential to be introduced into this State, is readily transmitted and is likely to be fatal, including, but not limited to, typhus fever.
2. An outbreak of a communicable disease which is a risk to the public health because it may affect large numbers of persons or because the illness is a newly described communicable disease, including, but not limited to:
 - (a) An outbreak of an illness related to a contaminated medical device or product.
 - (b) An outbreak of an illness suspected to be related to environmental contamination by any infectious or toxic agent.
 - (c) **An outbreak of a newly emerging disease, including, but not limited to, avian influenza.**
3. A case of an illness that is known or suspected to be related to an act of intentional transmission or biological terrorism.

The COVID-19 case definition changes, so please visit the CDC website for the most updated criteria:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-criteria.html>.

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