San Joaquin County
Public Health Services
health grows here

A DIVISION OF
HEALTH CARE
SERVICES AGENCY

March 25, 2020

To: Long Term Care Facilities in San Joaquin County

Cc: Hospital Infection Preventionists

From: Maggie Park, MD, Interim Health Office

Subject: Accepting Residents from Acute Care with COVID-19

As the COVID-19 pandemic progresses the increase in census in hospitals and emergency departments in the county is being exacerbated by the difficulty hospitals are facing when discharging patients to Long Term Care Facilities (LTCF), including Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF). Just as for influenza, all LTCF must have a plan that includes appropriate infection control practices and be prepared to accept and care for residents with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infections who are clinically ready to be discharged from the acute care setting. This includes patients who either have a positive lab test for COVID-19 or are suspected of having COVID-19 but do not need to be hospitalized.

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) All Facilities Letter - **AFL 20-25.1: "*Preparing for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in California Skilled Nursing Facilities"*** (https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-20-25-1.aspx) should be used to guide the development and implementation of your facility's COVID-19 control plan. It spells out how to prepare to receive and care for residents with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.

Many tools you need for a COVID-19 control plan are the same for influenza, so you can use the CDPH *Recommendations for the Prevention and Control of Influenza California Long-Term Care Facilities* for guidance also.

If you need assistance in getting Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for your staff, you can contact the San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services Agency (SJCEMSA). Information on how to request PPE supplies is on the following page. PPE includes gloves, N95 masks (N95 respirators), paper gowns, goggles or face shields and surgical masks. Before calling them, you need to gather the follow information:

- How many supplies are already on hand of each
- How fast you would use them (burn rate) if you have an outbreak
- How much you need for about a month

If you have any questions about this letter please call San Joaquin County Public Health Services (SJCPHS). It is also important and legally required that you **report all outbreaks in your facility to SJCPHS at (209) 468-3828 immediately.**

Thank you for all you do to care for and protect the health of the resident of San Joaquin County.

Directions for Requesting Medical and Health Resources
from San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services Agency

SJCEMSA coordinates all medical and health mutual aid resource requests within San Joaquin County. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has a mutual-aid supply of N-95 respirators and other PPE to help supplement the normal PPE supply chain. The EMS DOC Logistics Branch is available to assist with resource ordering Monday through Friday from 0700-1800 by contacting 209-468-6818 or by email with subject "Resource Request" to: emsdutyofficer@sjgov.org.

Detailed information on how to request resources is available here:
- https://www.sjgov.org/ems/PDF/HowtoRequestMedHealthPPEinWebEOCQRG.pdf
- https://www.sjgov.org/ems/videos/How_to_Request_MH_MA_PPE.mp4

The process for non-members of the San Joaquin Operational Area Healthcare Coalition to request PPE through the MHOAC program

1. Join the San Joaquin Operational Area Healthcare Coalition

    a. Visit the coalition website https://www.sjgov.org/ems/coalition.htm

    b. Familiarize yourself with the coalition, by reviewing the coalition governance document and interactive video presentation

    c. Complete and submit the Healthcare Coalition Participation Agreement Form, specifying that you want to join the Emergency Preparedness Committee

    https://www.sjgov.org/ems/PDF/SJOAHealthcareCoalitionParticipationAgree.pdf

    d. Complete and submit the Emergency Preparedness Committee participation agreement form
        i.   https://www.sjgov.org/ems/PDF/SJOAEPCParticipationAgree.pdf

2. Complete and submit a WebEOC user account request for all personnel authorized by your organization to request mutual aid resources

    a. Visit the WebEOC page https://www.sjgov.org/ems/webeocinfo.htm

        i.   Single user account request
             https://www.sjgov.org/ems/WebEOCEnrollment.aspx

        ii. Multiple user account requests
             https://www.sjgov.org/ems/PDF/WebEOC_User_Reg_Request.pdf

    b. Familiarize yourself with how to use WebEOC, by watching the online video tutorials located at the bottom of the WebEOC page.

3. Contact Phil Cook, if you need assistance with any of steps listed above

    a. Phone 209-468-6818
    b. Email pcook@sjgov.org