



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

ROBERT GORDON  
DIRECTOR

**MEMORANDUM**

Date: March 20, 2020

To: Health Care Providers

From: Joneigh Khaldun, MD, MPH, FACEP  
Chief Medical Executive and Chief Deputy for Health  
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Thank you for your continued service in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. This letter introduces guidance for all providers and staff involved in patient care and public health staffing with critical roles in the COVID-19 response (local or state).

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is currently reporting sustained widespread community transmission of COVID-19 in multiple areas of the State. This guidance is intended to help with the development of occupational health programs, policies, and priorities for groups that are critical to the healthcare system in the State of Michigan and is applicable to the following groups: hospitals, healthcare facilities, EMS, other organizations that employ healthcare workers in the inpatient or outpatient setting, all providers and support staff involved in patient care, and public health staffing actively involved in the COVID-19 response (local or state).

This interim guidance should be considered alongside applicable state and federal regulations and provided to all healthcare workers as appropriate. The primary recommendations in this guidance include:

- 1) If you are sick, please stay home.**
- 2) Healthcare workers currently prohibited from working because of previous guidance may return to work if asymptomatic if they are able to be closely monitored by their facility's occupational health program and adhere to all requirements for self-monitoring.**
- 3) In the context of sustained community transmission of COVID-19, all healthcare workers are at risk for unrecognized exposures. Therefore, ALL healthcare workers should self-monitor for fever with twice-daily temperature measurements and for symptoms consistent with COVID-19.**
- 4) If you are a healthcare worker who has had a known high-risk exposure to a patient(s) with confirmed COVID-19, you should take extra care to monitor your health but can keep working. There is no requirement for 14-day quarantine of healthcare workers with high-risk exposures in the setting of sustained community transmission as we have in multiple areas of the State of Michigan.**
- 5) MDHHS advises against testing of any asymptomatic individuals with or without an exposure to COVID-19, including healthcare workers.**