STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Renée D. Coleman-Mitchell, MPH Commissioner



Ned Lamont Governor Susan Bysiewicz Lt. Governor

ORDER

Whereas, on March 10, 2020, Governor Ned Lamont (the Governor), in response to the global pandemic of 2019 Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), declared a public health and civil preparedness emergency throughout the State of Connecticut pursuant to Sections 19a-131a and 28-9 of the Connecticut General Statutes, to remain in effect through September 9, 2020, unless sooner terminated by the Governor; and

Whereas, the Governor's Executive Order No. 7K, dated March 23, 2020, authorized the Commissioner of Public Health (the Commissioner) to temporarily waive, modify or suspend any regulatory requirements adopted by the Commissioner or any Boards or Commissions under Chapters 368a, 368d, 368v, 369 to 381a, inclusive, 382a, 383 to 388, inclusive, 398 to 399, inclusive, 400a, 400c and 474 of the Connecticut General Statutes as the Commissioner deems necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and to protect the public health; and

Whereas, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a need for mass testing of Connecticut residents to define and deter the spread of the disease; and

Whereas, the ability to significantly increase the number of COVID-19 tests performed on Connecticut residents to address the COVID-19 pandemic would be enhanced by allowing COVID-19 testing without a health practitioner order.

Now, Therefore, in an effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and to protect the public health, and, in accord with the authority set forth above, for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency, unless sooner modified or terminated by me or unless the Governor sooner repeals or modifies Executive Order No. 7K or the declared public health and civil preparedness emergency, I hereby order that, effective immediately:

Acceptance and collection of specimens.

Section 19a-36-D29(a) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies is hereby modified to eliminate the requirement that a request for collection or analysis of a COVID-19 specimen be made by a licensed physician or other licensed person authorized by law to make diagnoses.



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Reports of Findings.

Section 19a-36-D32(a) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies is hereby modified to eliminate the obligation to report the COVID-19 results to the licensed provider who ordered the testing. Nothing herein shall relieve a laboratory from its obligation to report its findings on a COVID-19 specimen to a licensed provider when a licensed provider has ordered the test.

Ordered this 6th day of May 2020

Renée D. Coleman-Mitchell, MPH

Commissioner /