



ALAMEDA COUNTY COVID-19 HEALTH EMERGENCY PRESS RELEASE

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA ★ CALIFORNIA

Office of Emergency Services
4985 Broder Blvd, Dublin, CA 94568

Alameda County Health Care Services Agency

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Alameda County Health Officer Issues Blanket Orders for COVID-19 Positive Individuals to Isolate and their Household and Close Contacts to Quarantine

ALAMEDA COUNTY, CA – Alameda County Health Officer Dr. Erica Pan issued Blanket Orders for people who have tested positive for COVID-19 or are awaiting test results to isolate at home and for their households and close contacts to quarantine.

Individualized legal orders to isolate and quarantine due to COVID-19 were previously issued from the Alameda County Public Health Department under the Health Officer’s authority to limit the spread of communicable disease.

The Blanket Orders replace these individual orders and apply to all persons with COVID-19 or suspected COVID-19 in Alameda County and their close contacts. With the Blanket Orders, health care providers simply issue standardized isolation and quarantine instructions to anyone with COVID-19 or suspected COVID-19 and their close contacts.

Isolation is a critical component of reducing the spread of COVID-19 by separating sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick. Quarantine separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick.

Close contacts to persons with COVID-19 are defined as individuals who:

- Live in or have stayed at the individual’s residence OR
- Are intimate sexual partners of the individual OR
- Provide or provided care to the individual without wearing a mask, gown, and gloves.

This contact would also have had to occur while the individual was determined to be infectious. An individual is infectious from 48 hours before their symptoms began and until they are released from isolation.

As the number of positive cases grow in Alameda County, having these Orders in place will support Alameda County Public Health Department’s disease containment work and reinforce the critical importance of isolation and quarantine of potentially infectious individuals.

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“These orders are a necessary next step and work in hand-in-hand with the shelter-in-place order to help slow COVID-19’s spread, protect vulnerable individuals, and prevent the healthcare system in Alameda County from being overwhelmed,” says Dr. Erica Pan.

Health care providers and labs that conduct COVID-19 testing are still required to report positive results to the Public Health Department, which will continue to monitor these individuals and their close contacts for symptoms and compliance with the orders.

“If you test positive, your health care provider will instruct you on isolation and give you guidance to share with close contacts who must quarantine. The Public Health Department will follow up with you to ensure you are following the orders. For the County to experience the full benefit of the shelter-in-place order, it is critical for every person to fully comply to protect their health and the safety of their loved ones,” said Dr. Pan.

For more about the isolation and quarantine instructions individuals will receive, positive case numbers, and updated COVID-19 information and resources, [visit acphd.org/2019-ncov](http://acphd.org/2019-ncov).

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