



Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency

Healthy People, Healthy Communities

Tammy Moss Chandler, Director
Noemi Doohan, MD, PhD, County Health Officer



**ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF MENDOCINO
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY QUARANTINE ORDER FOR COVID-19
DATE OF ORDER: APRIL 10, 2020
EFFECTIVE UNTIL RESCINDED**

Please read this Order carefully. Violation of or failure to comply with this Order is a misdemeanor punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both. (California Health and Safety Code § 120275, et seq.)

**UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE
SECTIONS 101040, 101085, 120175, 120215, 120220, and 120225
THE COUNTY OF MENDOCINO HEALTH OFFICER ORDERS:**

SUMMARY OF THE ORDER

1. California is in a State of Emergency because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The spread of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a substantial danger to the health of the public within the County of Mendocino. COVID-19 can easily spread between people who are in close contact with one another. This Order is issued based on scientific evidence and best practices as currently known and available to protect vulnerable members of the public from avoidable risk of serious illness or death resulting from exposure to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). This Order is intended to protect vulnerable members of the public from avoidable risk of serious illness or death resulting from exposure to COVID-19.
2. The age, condition, and health of a significant portion of the population of the County of Mendocino ("County") places it at risk for serious health complications, including death, from COVID-19. There is growing evidence of transmission risk from infected persons before the onset of symptoms. Thus, all individuals who contract COVID-19, regardless of their level of symptoms (none, mild or severe), may place other vulnerable members of the public at significant risk. Currently, there is no vaccine available to protect against COVID-19 and no specific treatment.
3. To help slow COVID-19's spread, protect vulnerable individuals, and prevent the healthcare system in the County of Mendocino from being overwhelmed, it is necessary for the Health Officer to require the self-quarantine of persons exposed to a person diagnosed with or likely to have COVID-19. Quarantine separates individuals who were exposed to COVID-19 from others, until it is determined that they are not at risk for spreading the disease.

**UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE
SECTIONS 101040, 101085, 120175, 120215, 120220, and 120225
THE COUNTY OF MENDOCINO HEALTH OFFICER ORDERS:**

All household members, intimate partners, caregivers and individuals who have been in close contact with a person diagnosed with or likely to have COVID-19, as defined in this Order must quarantine themselves. Persons quarantined are required to follow all instructions in this Order and the Public Health guidance documents referenced in this Order.

Violation of this Order is a crime, punishable by a fine of up to \$10,000 and/or a year in jail. (Health & Saf. Code §§ 120295 et seq.; Cal. Penal Code §§ 69 & 148)

Quarantine Requirements for Household Contacts, Intimate Partners, and Caregivers of Persons with COVID-19, and Other Persons Notified by Public Health

A. Close contacts to persons with COVID-19 (i.e., “cases”) are defined as individuals who:

- a. Live in or have stayed at the case’s residence OR
 - b. Are intimate sexual partners of the case. OR
 - c. Provide or provided care to the case without wearing a mask, gown, and gloves. OR
- AND
- d. This contact occurred while the case was determined to be infectious. A case is infectious within 48 hours before that person’s symptoms began and until that person is no longer required to be isolated.

B. All individuals who know that they have been in close contact as a household member, an intimate partner, a caregiver outside of a healthcare setting, or other close contact, as defined above (or who have been identified as close contacts) are required to immediately take the following actions:

1. **Stay in their home or another residence through 14 days from the last date that they were in contact with the person diagnosed with or likely to have COVID-19.** Self-quarantine is required for the entirety of the 14-day incubation period because an individual is at high risk for developing and spreading COVID-19, if that individual has had close contact, as defined above, with a person who has:
 - a) A positive lab test for the coronavirus (known as SARS-CoV-2) that causes COVID-19
 - b) Signs and symptoms that are consistent with COVID-19 (i.e., fever, cough, shortness of breath or trouble breathing), within 14 days of being in close contact with a person who had or was believed to have had COVID-19 OR
 - c) A health care provider has informed the individual that they are likely to have COVID-19.

Note: For those individuals who do not have a residence or are unable to return to their previous residence, the place of quarantine will be determined by the County of Mendocino Emergency Operations Center by calling the EOC COVID-19 Clinician Hotline at (707) 472-2606.

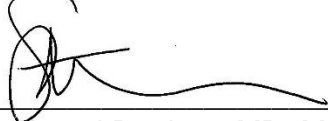
2. **Quarantined individuals may not leave their place of quarantine or enter any other public or private place except to receive necessary medical care for the entire 14-day incubation period**, the typical time between exposure and when symptoms and signs of the disease may develop.

3. **Carefully review and closely follow all requirements listed in the “Home Quarantine Instructions,” at <https://www.mendocinocounty.org/community/novel-coronavirus/health-order>.**

4. **If a quarantined person becomes sick with fever, cough, or shortness of breath (even if their symptoms are very mild), they should isolate themselves at home and away from other people and follow the “Home Isolation Instructions,” posted at <https://www.mendocinocounty.org/community/novel-coronavirus/health-order> and attached to this Order.** This is because they are likely to have COVID-19 and if so, can spread it to vulnerable individuals.

The Mendocino County Health Officer may take additional action(s), which may include civil detention or requiring one to stay at a health facility or other location, to protect the public’s health if an individual who is subject to this Order violates or fails to comply with this Order. Violation of this Order is also a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment, fine or both.

IT IS SO ORDERED:



Dr. Noemi Doohan, MD, MPH
Health Officer, County of Mendocino

4/10/2020

Date