



STATE OF MICHIGAN

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

ROBERT GORDON
DIRECTOR

February 5, 2020

TO: Executive Directors of Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans (PIHPs) and
Community Mental Health Services Programs (CMHSPs)

FROM: Jeffery L. Wieferrich, MA, LLP *JLW*
Director
Bureau of Community Based Services
Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration

SUBJECT: 2019 Novel Coronavirus—Situational Awareness and Responsibilities

This memo is intended to provide situational awareness and clarify CMHSP/PIHP responsibilities to their community during the public health emergency.

Currently, there are 11 known cases of 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in the United States (U.S.). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has declared the coronavirus a public health emergency in U.S. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is working closely with healthcare providers, local public health departments and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to actively monitor any potential cases of 2019-nCoV in Michigan. To date, there are no confirmed cases of 2019-nCoV in Michigan.

Individuals who present to healthcare with symptoms of cough or difficulty breathing, fever and report a travel history that includes Wuhan, China or contact with an ill individual who is under investigation for the 2019-nCoV infection are being considered for CDC laboratory testing after consultation between MDHHS and CDC. Additionally, any U.S. citizen who has been to China in the last two weeks will be diverted to one of 11 airports, including Detroit Metropolitan Airport, to be checked and potentially quarantined for an additional 14 days.

Outbreaks of 2019-nCoV infections among people are always of public health concern. For the general American public, who are unlikely to be exposed to this virus, the immediate health risk from 2019-nCoV is considered low. The goal of the ongoing U.S. public health response is to prevent sustained spread of 2019-nCoV in this country.

Right now, there are no additional precautions recommended for the general public. Steps you can take to prevent spread of flu and the common cold will also help prevent 2019-nCoV:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water. If not available, use hand sanitizer
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing
- Avoid contact with people who are sick. If you are sick, stay home, and avoid contact with others.

Executive Directors of Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans (PIHPs) and
Community Mental Health Services Programs (CMHSPs)
February 5, 2020
Page 2

In the event of a disaster or community emergency, more people are affected by the psychological impact of the disaster than those that are physically impacted. A CMHSP is responsible, in partnership with other local response agencies/organizations, for assessing the psychological impact of the disaster on victims and response personnel and coordination of Disaster Behavioral Health in collaboration with local emergency management. CMHSPs may need to provide emergency response support in collaboration with private sector or mental/behavioral health service providers and Non-governmental organizations in accordance with: **4.8 Disaster Behavioral Health CMHSP Responsibilities section of the CMHSP contract.**

Updates will be provided as the situation continues to evolve. If you have any questions, please contact Jody Lewis at lewisj@michigan.gov or at 517-582-8428 / Price Pullins at pullinsp@michigan.gov or at 517-281-1091.

Thank you.