



This is an official **DHEC Health Update**

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Updated COVID-19 Reporting Requirements

Summary

This HAN serves to notify providers and laboratories of changes in reporting requirements for COVID-19 related to the end of the federal Public Health Emergency.

Updated Reporting Guidance

In accordance with SC laws and regulations, DHEC requires reporting of COVID-19 cases and laboratory test results related to the detection or characterization of SARS-CoV-2 as follows:

- Positive results for SARS-CoV-2 will continue to be required to be reported to DHEC.
- Negative and indeterminate results for SARS-CoV-2 will no longer be required to be reported to DHEC.

Reporting of positive results for SARS-CoV-2 will include:

- **Nucleic Acid Amplification (NAAT) and Non-NAAT Testing:** This includes but is not limited to testing performed for SARS-CoV-2 by clinical laboratories, including public health, commercial, healthcare system, and academic laboratories regardless of Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA)-certification.
- **Whole genome sequencing (WGS):** Patient-specific results and analyses of WGS must be reported within 24 hours, regardless of CLIA certification status of the laboratory. CDC has provided guidance for reporting these results (updated March 21, 2022). As a reminder, laboratories must meet all applicable CLIA-certifications if they intend to report these results directly to providers or patients when the result is requested to diagnose, prevent, treat, or assess health status of an individual.

- **All COVID-19 associated deaths and cases of multi-system inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C):** must be reported within 24 hours of determination to the regional health department responsible for the county in which they occur.

Regarding other testing methods

- **SARS-CoV-2 antibody testing:** Results from antibody tests, whether positive, negative, or inconclusive), are not reportable by any facility.
- **Over the counter (OTC) at-home tests:** OTC tests with no provider or laboratory oversight should not be reported (see [HAN](#) from May 24, 2021 for details). At home tests ordered by providers must have their results reported by the provider.

How to Report

- Deaths related to COVID-19 and MIS-C cases are urgently reportable by phone to the regional health department. Positive test results must be reported by phone within 24 hours to the regional DHEC office unless the provider or facility has the capability to submit all reportable test results to DHEC using an approved electronic reporting option, including Electronic Lab Reporting (ELR), DHEC's secure web-based reporting portal (SCIONx), Comma-Separated Value (CSV) file transmitted via secure FTP site.
- Facilities that are not already submitting results via ELR or SCIONx should contact MUHELPDESK@dhec.sc.gov to inquire about ELR submission, or SCIONHELP@dhec.sc.gov to inquire about SCIONx and other electronic reporting options.
- Additional information regarding disease reporting can be found on [DHEC's List of Reportable Conditions](#).

DHEC contact information for reportable diseases and reporting requirements.

Reporting of SARS-CoV-2 laboratory and whole genome sequencing results, COVID-19 associated deaths, and cases of MIS-C is consistent with South Carolina Law requiring the reporting of diseases and conditions to your state or local public health department. (State Law # 44-29-10 and Regulation # 61-20) as per the DHEC 2023 List of Reportable Conditions available at:

<https://www.scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/Library/CR-009025.pdf>

Federal HIPAA legislation allows disclosure of protected health information, without consent of the individual, to public health authorities to collect and receive such information for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease. (HIPAA 45 CFR §164.512).

Regional Public Health Offices – 2023			
Mail or call reports to the Epidemiology Office in each Public Health Region			
MAIL TO:			
<u>Lowcountry</u> 4050 Bridge View Drive, Suite 600 N. Charleston, SC 29405 Fax: (843) 953-0051	<u>Midlands</u> 2000 Hampton Street Columbia, SC 29204 Fax: (803) 576-2993	<u>Pee Dee</u> 1931 Industrial Park Road Conway, SC 29526 Fax: (843) 915-6506	<u>Upstate</u> 352 Halton Road Greenville, SC 29607 Fax: (864) 282-4373
CALL TO:			
<u>Lowcountry</u> Allendale, Bamberg, Beaufort, Berkeley, Calhoun, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, Hampton, Jasper, Orangeburg Office: (843) 441-1091 Nights/Weekends: (843) 441-1091	<u>Midlands</u> Aiken, Barnwell, Chester, Edgefield, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lancaster, Lexington, Newberry, Richland, Saluda, York Office: (888) 801-1046 Nights/Weekends: (888) 801-1046	<u>Pee Dee</u> Clarendon, Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Georgetown, Horry, Lee, Marion, Marlboro, Sumter, Williamsburg Office: (843) 915-8886 Nights/Weekends: (843) 409-0695	<u>Upstate</u> Abbeville, Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Oconee, Pickens, Spartanburg, Union Office: (864) 372-3133 Nights/Weekends: (864) 423-6648
For information on reportable conditions, see https://www.scdhec.gov/ReportableConditions		<u>DHEC Bureau of Communicable Disease Prevention & Control</u> Division of Acute Disease Epidemiology 2100 Bull St • Columbia, SC 29201 Phone: (803) 898-0861 • Fax: (803) 898-0897 Nights / Weekends: 1-888-847-0902	

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- Health Alert** Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.
- Health Advisory** Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.
- Health Update** Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.
- Info Service** Provides general information that is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.