



NICK MACCHIONE, FACHE  
AGENCY DIRECTOR

## County of San Diego

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER

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March 17, 2020

TO: Community Clinics  
Hospitals  
Pharmacies  
Healthcare Providers  
Emergency Medical Services  
Homeless Housing Providers

FROM: Wilma J. Wooten, M.D., M.P.H.,  
Public Health Officer & Director,  
Public Health Services

### RE: TEMPORARY LODGING FOR PERSONS REQUIRING ISOLATION COVID-19

This letter is to provide direction for accessing temporary lodging for persons requiring isolation for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) infection. In accordance with directives from the Public Health Officer for the County of San Diego, identified individuals must be placed in isolation and can be released on day 8, or if they meet BOTH criteria below:

- At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed *since recovery* defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications **and** improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath)\*\*; **and**,
- At least 7 days have passed *since symptoms first appeared*.

\*\*defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications AND improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath), in accordance with CDC guidelines as of March 16, 2020, found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html>.

The County of San Diego has secured private rooms and meal plans at hotels around the County for pre-screened individuals requiring isolation. If needed, transportation can also be provided from your facility to the lodging site.

To reduce transmission of COVID-19, the individual must be transported DIRECTLY to the hotel. It is important to communicate to the individual that they are required by County Public Health Officer directive to remain in their room until further notice. Necessary accommodations for special needs such as dietary restrictions and allergies can be arranged with advance notice. If the person is being released from a hospital or clinic, prescriptions and/or over-the-counter medications must be provided before the person is transported.

COVID-19 Order of the Health Officer

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If a person requires temporary lodging for isolation, please call (858) 715-2350 between 7:00AM and 7:00PM, 7-days a week to speak with the Placement Coordinator as soon as possible.

I want you to know that we are all in this together with one singular mission, to protect the public and prevent the spread of this virus. I want to emphasize that your decisive leadership, action, and support are essential, and your partnership is greatly appreciated. If your employees or patients have questions or concerns related to COVID-19, please encourage them to call 2-1-1 for general information.

For additional information about the outbreak and associated resources, please go to the coronavirus websites at [CDC](#) and the [County of San Diego](#). These links will provide the latest CDC guidance and local information, respectively. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at [MOC.PHO.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:MOC.PHO.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov).

Please be advised that final discharge approval from isolation will be provided by San Diego County's Public Health Services.

Thank you for your cooperation and diligence during this critical time, as well as your continued partnership and support to keep the residents of San Diego County healthy, safe, and thriving.

Sincerely,



WILMA J. WOOTEN, M.D., M.P.H.  
Public Health Officer & Director  
Public Health Services

cc: Helen Robbins-Meyer, County of San Diego, Chief Administrative Officer  
Nick Macchione, County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Director