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James A. Barcia
Bay County Executive

Joel R. Strasz
Public Health Officer

Thomas John Bender, MD, PhD
Medical Director

RE: **EMERGENCY ORDER 2020-5 FOR CONTROL OF PANDEMIC**
DATE: November 21, 2020

THIS ORDER is made pursuant to Section 2453 of the Michigan Public Health Code, [MCL 333.2453](#). Matters have been brought to the attention of the Bay County Health Officer, and controlling epidemic transmission of SARS-CoV-2, the virus which causes coronavirus disease 2019 ([COVID-19](#)), is necessary to protect the public health of the residents of Bay County.

The Bay County Health Officer has determined that controls are necessary to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and protect the public health of Bay County based on the following facts:

1. A biological agent (the SARS-CoV-2 virus) or the effects of a biological agent have been detected within Bay County, with a growing number of cases of COVID-19.
2. COVID-19 is a communicable disease and can be transmitted efficiently from person to person.
3. In order to control and limit the spread of the communicable disease, it is necessary to prevent infected people from coming into contact with uninfected people.
4. It is essential to sustain operations staffed by critical infrastructure workers in Bay County.

The Bay County Health Officer has established emergency procedures to be followed by persons during the epidemic to ensure continuation of essential public health services. It is hereby ordered that employers of the following critical infrastructure workers, specifically:

- (a) healthcare workers (including anyone working at a hospital, urgent care center, clinic, nursing home, assisted living facility, or long term care facility),
- (b) first responders (including EMS, Fire, Police, and 9-1-1),
- (c) corrections officers,
- (d) municipal and community water treatment,
- (e) wastewater,
- (f) energy
- (g) education (including private and public primary, secondary and post-secondary)
- (g) and any other employer in Bay County that provides services directly to the public within less than six feet of distance for a period of 15 minutes or more must take the following precautions:

- A. Continue to implement a daily screening program for all staff upon reporting to worksites. The screening procedures must include the following questions:
 1. Within the previous 14 days, has the worker had any close contact with someone identified as a positive or presumed positive case of COVID-19; and
 2. Does the worker exhibit any signs or report any new onset symptoms consistent with the most current Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) [case definition for COVID-19](#). –See Attachment A

- B. Any “yes” response to the above screening questions requires the worker to be excluded from the worksite (but not necessarily from work, if telecommuting or remote work is an option) for the following time periods:
1. 14 days if the worker had close contact with a positive or presumed positive case of COVID-19. “Close contact” can occur by (a) having direct contact with infectious secretions (i.e., sputum, serum, blood, and respiratory droplets) from a person with COVID-19 and (b) being within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 for ≥ 15 minutes.
 2. At least 10 days following the first appearance of the worker’s symptoms.
 3. At least 24 hours following the worker’s recovery. “Recovery” is defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medicine AND resolution or substantial improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) and gastrointestinal symptoms (e.g., nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea).
- C. Consistent with [guidance](#) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), healthcare workers and [other critical infrastructure workers](#) who have had a known high-risk exposure to a positive or presumed positive case of COVID-19, is asymptomatic, but have not had a positive test, may continue to work without the requirement to quarantine.
- D. Immediately (within 24 hours) direct workers who have a confirmed positive test (PCR or Antigen) or have been declared a probable case by a health care provider to report details of their illness and close contacts consistent with requirements set forth in the Michigan Public Health Code to the Bay County Health Department.
- E. Provide to the Bay County Health Department a list of excluded workers, upon request, for the effective management and control of the virus.
- F. Publish this order so that it is visible to all workers.
- G. The contents of this Order shall be published to the members of the public at large by all reasonable means available.

This Order shall become effective on 12:00 am, November 23, 2020.

Such measures will be enforced, and any violations are subject to citation and penalties as outlined in the Michigan Public Health Code. This Order will remain in effect until it is determined by the Health Officer of the Bay County Health Department (BCHD) that the threat to the Public’s Health and lives is no longer present. This order may be revised as well as supplemented with specific procedures and orders per the Michigan Public Health Code.

Dated: 12:00 PM November 21, 2020



Joel R. Strasz
Health Officer
Bay County Health Department

ATTACHMENT A: COUNCIL OF STATE AND TERRITORIAL EPIDEMIOLOGISTS (CSTE)
CASE DEFINITION FOR COVID-19

At least two of the following symptoms:

- fever (measured or subjective),
- chills,
- rigors,
- myalgia,
- headache,
- sore throat,
- nausea or vomiting,
- diarrhea,
- fatigue,
- congestion or runny nose

OR

Any one of the following symptoms:

- cough,
- shortness of breath,
- difficulty breathing,
- new olfactory disorder
- new taste disorder

OR

Severe respiratory illness with at least one of the following:

- Clinical or radiographic evidence of pneumonia,
- Acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS).