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To: Local Health Officers

Subject: Guidelines for Communication and Response to a Communicable Disease Outbreak within California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Adult Institutions

Dear Colleagues:

Attached is a newly developed document called **Guidelines for Communication and Response to a Communicable Disease Outbreak within California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Adult Institutions.**

These guidelines were developed jointly by representatives from California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), California Department of Public Health (CDPH), and the California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO). When there is an outbreak in an adult state correctional facility (either a prison or community correctional facility) this guidance addresses the process for communication and collaboration among the following organizations: the effected correctional facility, the local health department, the CDPH Division of Communicable Disease Control, and the CDCR Public Health Unit.

Also attached is a copy of the new CDCR Preliminary Report of Infectious Disease and/or Outbreak Form which is to be used by the effected facility to initially report a confirmed or suspected outbreak to the local health department and to the CDCR Public Health Unit. Other attachments include contact information for the CDPH Division of Communicable Disease Control (DCDC), local health department day and after-hours numbers, and key staff at the CDCR facilities and their Public Health Unit. For each CDCR non-prison community correctional facility there is a "Health Care Hub" facility assigned which provides medical consultation; this list is included as an attachment also. The local health department contact information can also be found at http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/CCLHO/Pages/default.aspx.

It is important that you review and implement these guidelines by sharing them with appropriate staff within your organization who are responsible for responding to outbreaks. Questions and comments about these guidelines can be addressed to Dr. Karen Furst at (209) 468-3411 or kfurst@sjcphs.org.

Respectfully,

Ann Lindsay MD.

Ann Lindsay, MD
President, CCLHO