

JUSTIFICATION

To control disease and protect the public's health, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is authorized to examine the causes of communicable diseases in humans and domestic animals occurring, or likely to occur, in California (California Health & Safety Code (HSC) section 120125) and to establish a list of reportable diseases and conditions for which clinical laboratories shall submit a culture or specimen to the local public health laboratory (HSC section 120130). CDPH, in consultation with the California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO) and California Association of Public Health Laboratory Directors (CAPHLD), may modify and implement the list at any time without adoption of a regulation as required in the administrative regulation and rulemaking requirements in Government Code, Title 2, Division 3, Part 1, Chapter 3.5, commencing with section 11340 (HSC 120130).

In response to the novel coronavirus outbreak and ongoing public health surveillance efforts, the CDPH Center for Infectious Diseases identified a needed addition to the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 17 section 2505, requiring submission of SARS-CoV-2 samples upon request. This addition was presented at the CCLHO Board meeting on January 7, 2021. A letter documenting CCLHO approval is included in the regulation package. This addition was also presented and approved at a CAPHLD Executive Council Meeting on January 8, 2021. Approved meeting minutes are included in the regulation package.

CDPH, the CCLHO Board, and the CAPHLD Executive Council agreed to the following revisions:

2505 (p) Addition (Submission of SARS-CoV-2 Samples Upon Request):

- A laboratory that tests any specimen for SARS-CoV-2 shall submit the specimen to the California Department of Public Health or a local health officer upon written request.