

NEW MEXICO HEALTH ALERT NETWORK (HAN) ALERT

Updated SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 Test Result Reporting Instructions

May 16, 2023

Background:

Over the last three years SARS-CoV-2 laboratory surveillance has been a cornerstone of our pandemic response. Following the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency declaration (PHE) on May 11, 2023 the New Mexico Department of Health and CDC will continue to report valuable data to understand COVID-19 trends and to inform individual and community public health actions to protect those at highest risk of severe COVID-19.

Instructions for Clinicians and Laboratories:

In accordance with 7.4.3.13 New Mexico Administrative Code found here, [7.4.3 NMAC](#), **all positive SARS-COV-2/COVID-19 viral test results should be reported** to the Epidemiology and Response Division (ERD) of the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH). **We are no longer requiring negative result reporting; however, laboratories may choose to continue to report this in their electronic laboratory (ELR) feeds.**

Entities conducting SARS-COV-2/COVID-19 viral testing including all NAAT (PCR) testing, all testing conducted in a setting operating under a CLIA certificate of waiver, non-NAAT testing conducted in a facility certified under CLIA to perform moderate- or high-complexity tests (except antibody or home testing), must report positive test results. This includes rapid testing conducted in many settings (e.g., screening testing at schools, correctional facilities, employee testing programs, long-term care facilities, and point-of-care testing performed in pharmacies, medical provider offices, and drive-through testing sites).

The preferred method of reporting SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 positive test results, including point-of-care or in-house analyzer test results to NMDOH continues to be through an automated or electronic reporting system. **If a facility does not currently have the capacity to report test results through an automated or electronic reporting system, then the facility should report through the ERD fax line.**

EPIDEMIOLOGY AND RESPONSE

Additional Resources:

Dedicated fax line for NEW SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 positive test results and COVID-19 hospitalizations: 1-505-985-5550

For all other reportable conditions, please continue to fax daily to 1-505-827-0013.

If a reporting facility would like to implement an automated or electronic reporting system, please contact Carmela Smith at Carmela.Smith@doh.nm.gov.

New Mexico Health Alert Network: To register for the NM Health Alert Network, please visit the following site <https://nm.readyop.com/fs/4cjZ/10b2> Please fill out the registration form completely and click Submit at the bottom of the page, to begin receiving Important health alerts, advisories, and updates.

Please Note that our system also utilizes text messaging to notify members of important health information. Due to FCC Regulation changes that are designed to decrease the amount of unwanted spam text messages sent each year to citizens, please save, this phone number **(855) 596-1810** as the **“New Mexico Health Alert Network”** default phone number for your account used for text messages on the mobile device(s) you register with us.