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ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC HEALTH REGARDING ACCESS TO CERTAIN IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION FOR INSURANCE CARRIERS AND MASSHEALTH

On March 10, 2020, Governor Charles D. Baker declared a State of Emergency in the Commonwealth to respond to the spread of COVID-19. The Public Health Council has approved and authorized me to take such actions, incur such liabilities, and stablish such rules, requirements and procedures which are necessary to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in order to protect the health and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth, consistent with the Governor's declaration.

As of February 6, 2021, the Department of Public Health (Department) has reported 513, 526 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 14,622 deaths among confirmed cases in the Commonwealth. As of February 4, 2021, the Department reported that 681,472 total cumulative does of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in the Commonwealth.

The Massachusetts Immunization Information System (MIIS) is the Department's system of record for information concerning all immunizations administered in the Commonwealth and reported to the Department pursuant to G.L. c. 111 §24M and 105 CMR 222. As the Commonwealth's COVID-19 Vaccine Plan continues, Commercial Health Insurers, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Massachusetts, Inc., Health Maintenance Organizations and MassHealth (for purposes of this Order, collectively, Carriers) will be able to play a vital role in contacting and educating their members with regard to COVID-19 vaccination.

Accordingly, the Department may release records of COVID-19 vaccinations from the MIIS (MIIS Information) to Carriers for the purpose of those Carriers' Authorized COVID-19 Activities. The Department shall develop guidance detailing the MIIS Information, the Carriers' Authorized COVID-19 Activities, and the confidentiality and security provisions the Carriers must meet regarding the MIIS Information.

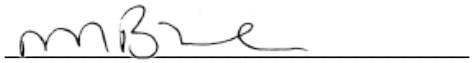
Such MIIS Information may only be used by the Carriers for the Carriers Authorized COVID-19 Activities as such activities and purposes are described in the Department's guidance and not for any other purpose.

All applicable statutes, regulations, and guidance not inconsistent with this Order remain in

effect.

This Order shall remain in effect until rescinded by me, or the State of Emergency is terminated by the Governor, whichever shall happen first.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Monica Bharel, MD, MPH
Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Public Health

February 9, 2021