STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

STATE HEALTH OFFICER ORDER FOR TESTING FOR 2019-nCoV/COVID-19 AS A DISEASE CONTROL MEASURES TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF 2019-nCoV/COVID-19 PURSUANT TO NORTH DAKOTA CENTURY CODE § 23-01-05(12)

SECTION A: SUBJECT PERSONS

ALL PERSONS EMPLOYED BY, AND ALL RESIDENTS OF, THE FOLLOWING FACILITIES LOCATED IN THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA: SKILLED NURSING HOMES; BASIC CARE FACILIES; ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES; CENTERS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING; TREATMENT AND CARE CENTERS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES; SHELTERS AND EMERGENCY HOUSING; AND THE LIFE SKILLS AND TRANSITION CENTER.

SECTION B: FINDINGS

1. The Director General of the World Health Organization has declared that the 2019-nCoV/COVID-19 constitutes a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. The Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has declared that 2019-nCoV/COVID-19 constitutes a public health emergency.

2. On March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump issued a declaration of national emergency due to the growing 2019-nCoV/COVID-19 crisis in the United States.

3. On March 13, 2020, Governor Doug Burgum declared a state of emergency in response to the public health crisis resulting from 2019-nCoV/COVID-19; Executive Order 2020-03 activated the State Emergency Operation Plan (SEOP), implementing appropriate response and recovery actions and future mitigation measures.

4. Both travel related cases and community contact transmission of 2019-nCoV/COVID-19 have been documented in North Dakota and are expected to continue.

5. Delay in imposing this Order would significantly jeopardize the ability of the Department of Health to prevent or limit the transmission of 2019-nCoV/COVID-19, a contagious disease, to others.

6. Increased transmission poses a substantial threat to the residents who are living in a congregate setting and have an increased risk of developing complications related to 2019-

7. A written order for testing for 2019-nCoV/COVID-19 is a disease control measure and is authorized pursuant to N.D.C.C. 23-01-05(12).

8. Written orders issued pursuant to N.D.C.C. 23-01-05(12) shall have the same effect as a physician's standing medical order.

SECTION C: REQUIREMENTS

1. Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) testing for 2019-nCoV/COVID-19 is authorized for all subject persons, as defined by SECTION A, effective June 1, 2020, through June 30, 2020.

2. Registered Nurses of the facilities specified in SECTION A, in consultation with the Department, or its agents, will conduct all testing for 2019-nCoV/COVID-19 authorized by this Order.

SECTION D: STATE HEALTH OFFICER EXECUTION

Dated this 27th day of May, 2020.

Mylynn Tufte, MBA, MSIM, RN
State Health Officer
North Dakota Department of Health

Dated this 26th day of May, 2020.

Joan Connell, MD
Field Medical Officer
North Dakota Department of Health