Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
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Randall W. Williams, MD, FACOG
Director

Michael L. Parson
Governor

April 4, 2020

Reporting Death Associated with SARS CoV-2 or Clinically Diagnosed COVID-19

The Director of the Department of Health and Senior Services, finding it necessary to protect public health and prevent the further spread of COVID-19, pursuant to the authority granted under section 192.020, RSMo, and 19 CSR 20-20.040, hereby orders the following:

Upon the death of any individual with positive laboratory test for SARS CoV-2 or clinically diagnosed COVID-19, such death shall be reported to the Department within twenty-four (24) hours. In the event that an individual dies while awaiting COVID-19 test results and a positive result is later confirmed, the death shall be reported to the Department within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the positive confirmation. It shall be the duty of the physician in charge of the decedent's care, or by the physician in attendance either at the time of death or immediately before or after, or when appropriate by the local medical examiner, to ensure that such death is reported at once, without delay and with a sense of urgency by means of rapid communication to the Department regardless of the day or hour. Death notification can be amended at any time should additional information become available. This Order is limited to the reporting of COVID-19 positive deaths and does not purport to modify any other provision of Missouri law or regulation. This order shall remain in effect until the State of Emergency, as declared by Governor Michael Parson on March 13, 2020, is lifted.

Randall W. Williams, MD, FACOG
Director

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER: Services provided on a nondiscriminatory basis.