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ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL INDIVIDUALS TO ADMINISTER COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

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 March 22, 2021 the Department of Public Health (Department) has reported 582,159 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 16,578 deaths among confirmed cases in the Commonwealth. As of March 23, 2021, 3,016,586 total cumulative does of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in the Commonwealth.

The COVID-19 vaccination effort requires sufficient capacity of individuals authorized to administer the COVID-19 vaccine to ensure timely vaccine administration while also ensuring sufficient health care personnel remain available to continue provision of medical care in health care facilities across the Commonwealth.

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority granted by G.L. c. 17, § 2A and with the approval of the Governor and the Public Health Council, and in order to assure the maintenance of the public health during the continuing public health emergency, I issue the following Order:

Podiatrists licensed pursuant to G.L. c. 112, § 16, phlebotomists, medical assistants who otherwise do not meet the requirements to administer vaccine pursuant to G.L. c. 112, § 265, and designated Massachusetts Military Division vaccinators are hereby authorized to administer those COVID-19 vaccines with Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Phlebotomists, medical assistants and designated Massachusetts Military Division vaccinators administering vaccine pursuant to this Order shall have been trained and demonstrate competency for performing vaccine administration according to a protocol approved by their supervising physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant or military supervising practitioner.

For purposes of this Order, the following terms are defined as follows.

> "Phlebotomist" shall mean a person whose responsibilities include, but are not limited to, collecting blood samples from patients under the supervision of a physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant licensed in Massachusetts , separating blood into different test tubes in order for it to be used in medical tests, accurately labeling said tubes and ensuring correct samples are sent to the laboratory.
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> "Medical assistant" shall mean a person who performs basic administrative, clerical, and clinical duties under the direct supervision of a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant licensed in Massachusetts.
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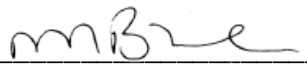
> "Designated Massachusetts Military Division staff" shall mean military personnel who are certified by the United States Army as Combat Lifesavers.

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

March 25, 2021