



Lexington-Fayette County Health Department

Infectious Disease
650 Newtown Pike
Lexington, KY 40508-1197
(859) 899-5222
(859) 288-7512 Fax

Hollie Sands
Epidemiology Coordinator
Lexington-Fayette County Health Department
650 Newtown Pike
Lexington, Kentucky 40511

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To Whom It May Concern,

This letter, along with pertinent attachments, is an effort to simplify the process of reportable disease notification in Lexington. Healthcare providers have a critical role in the prompt reporting of communicable diseases and can make the difference between disease control and an outbreak.

Under 902 KAR 2:020, health professionals are required to report the attached diseases and conditions and supporting documentation to the local health departments serving the jurisdiction in which the patient resides or to the Kentucky Department for Public Health. **Furthermore, having a laboratory report for you does not release the practice or the provider of the responsibility of providing information to the local health department.**

Why Report

Timely reporting of communicable diseases by healthcare providers allows public health agencies to identify newly emerging conditions and prevent transmission of diseases. In some cases initial lab results may be inconclusive to confirm the disease. Therefore, the healthcare providers should notify the health department as soon as a reportable disease is suspected.

How and What to Report

In addition to mandating the reporting by the physician, 902 KAR 2:020 also states the diseases that are reportable. Please see the attached documents for a list of reportable diseases, their respective guidelines, and their reporting process.

HIPAA and Public Health

Under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), public health authorities are permitted to obtain medical records for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease. **A release of information is not required from the patient to release these records.**

We hope you will find these documents useful. Thank you for helping to make our community safer by following these guidelines.

Helping Lexington be well.

If we can be of assistance in answering your questions or concerns, or if you have comments on the included documents please feel free to contact us at any time.

Sincerely,

The Epidemiology Team
Lexington-Fayette County Health Department

Attachments:

Reportable Disease List

KY Reportable Disease Form

Please follow these steps to complete the local notification process:

- Step 1:** Review the attached list of reportable conditions and their respective reporting time frames
- Step 2:** Complete the Kentucky Reportable Disease Form (attached)
- Step 3:** Attach copies of relevant lab results **in addition to** completing the laboratory information section on the Kentucky Reportable Disease Form
- Step 4:** Fax the Kentucky Reportable Disease Form, lab results, and other documents to (859) 288-7512
- Step 5:** Call Epidemiology at the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department at (859) 899-5222 with any questions