



COUNTY OF MONTEREY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Elsa Jimenez, Director of Health

Administration Clinic Services
Behavioral Health Emergency Medical Services Public Health
Environmental Health/Animal Services Public Administrator/Public Guardian

Nationally Accredited for Providing Quality Health Services

April 24, 2019

All Facilities Letter - Licensed Health Care Facilities in Monterey County

RE: End of Masking Period for Unvaccinated Health Care Workers in Licensed Health Care Facilities

Dear Facility:

On August 31, 2018, I issued a Health Officer order that required all licensed healthcare facilities in Monterey County to develop and implement a mandatory influenza vaccination policy and program for the 2018-2019 influenza season. The order also required masking of health care workers who declined influenza vaccination while working in patient care areas. The 2018-2019 influenza season was defined in the order as November 1, 2018, through April 30, 2019.

I am confirming that the Health Officer order will end on April 30, 2019. While Monterey County continues to experience elevated seasonal influenza activity, unvaccinated healthcare workers may stop using masks on May 1, 2019.

I anticipate that a Health Officer order will be issued again for the 2019-2020 influenza season. In early fall, we will provide an update that includes the estimated influenza season period and the facilities to whom the order would apply.

The Monterey County Health Department is committed to assisting facilities that are subject to the order. Please contact the Communicable Disease Unit at 831-755-4521 or the Immunization Program at 831-755-4683 if you have any questions.

I appreciate your support and cooperation in protecting the health of Monterey County residents.

Sincerely,



Edward L. Moreno, MD, MPH
Health Officer & Director of Public Health