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January 19, 2017

To: All Acute Care Hospitals and Skilled Nursing Facilities

On January 19th, 2017, the Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services (LBDHHS) in conjunction with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LAC DPH) is mandating that all acute care hospitals and skilled nursing facilities report all clinical laboratory carbapenem-resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* (CRE) positive tests isolated from any specimen source, by the authority of the Health Officer under §120175 of the California Health and Safety Code. In addition, the Order requires acute care hospitals and skilled nursing facilities in Long Beach to create an antibiogram and submit it to Los Angeles County Department of Public Health annually in order to track antimicrobial resistance among CRE and other organisms in Long Beach and Los Angeles County.

CRE cases must be reported via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) LabID component. Facilities not enrolled in NHSN will report via Confidential Morbidity Report and include a copy of the laboratory report. A new NHSN group has been created for CRE reporting and will include reporting of patient identifiers.

Please reference the attached Health Officer Order for further information regarding the criteria and reporting requirements for CRE and antibiograms. A webinar will be held on February 14 and 17 to review the mandate, the NHSN reporting requirement, and information on submitting your facility's antibiogram.

CRE and antibiogram reports will provide an improved understanding of the regional epidemiology of CRE and other antimicrobial resistant organisms. Surveillance also will allow LBDHHS to develop and assess intervention and prevention activities, and further refine strategies to protect Long Beach residents from these threats.

Information on reporting CRE through the NHSN LabID component can be found at the following CDC website:
<http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/acute-care-hospital/cdiff-mrsa/index.html>

Clinical guidance and epidemiological information on CRE can be found at the following CDC website:
<https://www.cdc.gov/HAI/organisms/cre/index.html>

For questions about the new reporting requirements and guidance on CRE testing and control, please visit <http://www.longbeach.gov/health/diseases-and-condition/resources-for-providers/carbapenem-resistant-enterobacteriaceae-cre/> or call Emily Holman, Emerging Infectious Disease Response Coordinator, at (562)570-4344.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anissa Davis, MD, MPH".

Anissa Davis, M.D., M.P.H.

cc. Infection Preventionists, Laboratory Directors, Reference Laboratories, Infectious Disease Physicians, Hospital Association of Southern California (HASC), Diagnostic Laboratories