



Charlie Crist  
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.  
State Surgeon General

November 21, 2008

Dear Colleague:

The Department of Health is pleased to announce the completion of updates to Rule 64D-3, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), which governs disease reporting. **These changes affect you.** To find the updated guidelines for reporting and other important disease reporting documents, log onto: [www.floridadiseasecontrol.com/epi/topics/surv.htm](http://www.floridadiseasecontrol.com/epi/topics/surv.htm).

These updates represent issues that have come to light since the adoption of an extensive rewrite in November 2006. The purpose of the rewrite was to clarify current rule language and amend the list of reportable diseases or conditions. These changes enhance communicable disease reporting efficiency and clarify reporting and testing requirements for healthcare providers, laboratories, hospitals, and other entities required to report communicable diseases or conditions that affect public health. The rule amendments:

- Add to the list of notifiable diseases or conditions "Amebic encephalitis," "Arsenic poisoning," "Carbon monoxide poisoning," "*Staphylococcus aureus*-community associated mortality," and "*Staphylococcus aureus* isolated from a normally sterile site."
- Delete from the list of notifiable diseases or conditions "*Clostridium perfringens*, epsilon toxin (disease due to)."
- Modify within the list of notifiable diseases or conditions "Any disease outbreak in a community, hospital or other institution or a foodborne or waterborne outbreak," "Any grouping or clustering of patients having similar disease, symptoms or syndromes that may indicate the presence of a disease outbreak including those of biological agents associated with terrorism," "Erlchiosis," "Herpes simplex virus (HSV) in infants up to six (6) months of age with disseminated infection with involvement of liver, encephalitis and infections limited to skin, eyes and mouth," "Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) Exposed Newborn- infant < 18 months of age born to a HIV infected woman," "Human papilloma virus (HPV) associated laryngeal papillomas or recurrent respiratory papillomatosis in children < 6 years of age," "HPV cancer associated strains," "Lead poisoning," and "Poliomyelitis."
- Update several other sections, which include Definitions, Notification by Practitioners, Notification by Laboratories, Procedures for Control of Specific Communicable Diseases, and Epidemiological Investigations.

The updated version of Rule 64D-3, F.A.C., is effective **November 24, 2008**. We look forward to your partnership to protect the health of Floridians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ana M. Viamonte Ros".

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.  
State Surgeon General