Provider Alert: Prioritizing COVID-19 Case Investigation, Contact Tracing and Outbreak Investigations
March 29, 2022

As the pandemic and case rates begin to decline, the Public Health Department is prioritizing case investigation/contact tracing (CICT) and Outbreak follow up to focus its efforts on highest priority settings that include health care and congregate residential settings with vulnerable populations most likely to experience more severe outcomes.

CICT investigators will continue to utilize automated public health tools as means of communication to have a more efficient and higher impact on prevention efforts. One of the tools being utilized is an automated survey sent to each case which helps prioritize outreach to populations at high-risk due to chronic illnesses. This process will facilitate the rapid provision of information, treatment or other needed support.

Outbreak Investigators will focus and prioritize case investigations in shelters, schools, agricultural, and healthcare facilities. However, Outbreak Investigators will be available to provide consultation to any facility requesting assistance.

The Public Health Department continues to require all facilities to report outbreaks as mandated per the California Department of Public Health and Cal/OSHA. If you have questions about reporting, please contact the COVID-19 Unit at (805) 451-7675. Please visit our website for current COVID-19 information at: https://publichealthsbc.org/.