Guidance for Jails during the COVID-19 Pandemic

DETENTION STAFF GUIDELINES

Detention staff to follow the below guidance only when it does not jeopardize staff safety.

- When handling of a possible COVID-19 prisoner, responding staff will don either a surgical mask or N-95 or higher-level respirator, eye protection (i.e., goggles or disposable face shield that fully covers the front and sides of the face. Personal eyeglasses and contact lenses are NOT considered adequate eye protection), and a single pair of disposable patient examination gloves, and a disposable isolation gown or single-use/disposable coveralls (if gowns are available).
- Have prisoner wear a disposable surgical style mask when staff is in contact with the prisoner.
- The prisoner will be isolated from other prisoners. Prisoners with known or suspected COVID-19 can be housed together if there is no longer a way to keep COVID-19 prisoners individually isolated.
- Staff handling prisoners clothing and personal effects will wear PPE while handling the items until they are placed in plastic bags and the bag is tied closed (wet clothing must be laundered and dried before storing).
- Follow standard operating procedures for the containment and disposal of used PPE. Reusable PPE such as Safety glasses will be decontaminated before reuse.
- Seek testing for COVID-19 only if you have fever or sign/symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (cough and/or shortness of breath) within 14 days of having direct contact with known COVID-19 patient without alternative explanatory diagnosis (e.g., influenza).
- If housing a prisoner with confirmed (via testing) COVID-19, the prisoner can be moved back to general population 10 days after onset of symptoms or 10 days after discharge from the hospital. Prisoners with suspected COVID-19 can be moved to general population after a confirmed negative test for COVID-19.
- Video conferencing should be used for all Judicial procedures involving suspected COVID-19 prisoners, if a judicial matter cannot be handled via video conferencing the prisoner should be transported separately and must wear a surgical style mask. Limit the procedure to the bare minimum staff to complete the judicial procedure and maintain safety. Staff physically touching the prisoner will wear above indicated PPE, other staff should remain 6 feet from prisoner.
- Spaces housing COVID-19 prisoners must be cleaned following the CDC section located HERE labeled How to clean and disinfect before occupied by non-COVID-19 prisoners.

JAIL NURSE/MEDICAL STAFF
Jail nurse/medical staff to follow the below guidance.

- When performing an exam on, or treating a possible COVID-19 prisoner, wear the following PPE: a mask (surgical, N-95, or higher-level respirator), eye protection (i.e., goggles or disposable face shield that fully covers the front and sides of the face. Personal eyeglasses and contact lenses are NOT considered adequate eye protection), and a single pair of disposable patient examination gloves, and a disposable isolation gown or single-use/disposable coveralls (if gown is available).
- Have prisoner wear a disposable surgical style mask when you are within 6 feet of them.
- Confirm that the prisoner has had a positive test for COVID-19 or meets the latest guidance for testing HERE.
- If prisoner has a positive test or meets testing guidelines, treat prisoner as if they have COVID-19 and isolate as per direction in DETENTION STAFF GUIDELINES.
- Prisoners with a positive test must remain in isolation until 10 days after onset of symptoms or 10 days after discharge from the hospital. Follow testing procedures HERE and send sample to CDPHE lab.
- Prisoners with suspected COVID-19 must be tested. Follow testing procedures HERE and send sample to CDPHE lab.
- Prisoners with a positive test can be moved back to general population 10 days after onset of symptoms or 10 days after being released from the hospital. Prisoners with suspected COVID-19 can be moved to general population after a confirmed negative test for COVID-19.
- Jail nurse/medical staff: seek testing for COVID-19 for yourself only if you have fever or sign/symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (cough and/or shortness of breath) within 14 days of having direct contact with suspected COVID-19 patient without alternative explanatory diagnosis (e.g., influenza).