



# Messenger

## **Novel Coronavirus Response**- Counties of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura LRN catchment area

If your laboratory is contacted regarding a possible case of novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) infection direct the party to call your local public health department:

San Luis Obispo County Public Health: (805) 781-5500

Santa Barbara County Public Health: (805) 681-5280

Ventura County Public Health: (805) 981-5201

Public Health authorities will conduct an investigation of the patient and determine if the case warrants 2019-nCoV testing.

Currently only the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is performing a test to detect the novel coronavirus. If a person under investigation (PUI) is to be tested, specimens collected should be sent to the local health department laboratory for referral and shipping to the CDC for testing.

The County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Laboratory (SLOPHL) is a Laboratory Response Network (LRN) reference laboratory, BUT is currently not performing novel coronavirus testing.

The CDC has developed a reverse transcription (RT) PCR assay that is expected to be deployed soon, under FDA Emergency Use Authorization (EUA), to LRN reference laboratories, starting with state public health laboratories.

If the County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Laboratory institutes 2019-nCoV testing, area laboratories will be notified.

If you have question call Dr. Jim Beebe, Laboratory Director, County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Laboratory. Questions? Please contact the Laboratory Director by phone at 805-781-5512 or email at [jbeebe@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:jbeebe@co.slo.ca.us)

## **Questions?**

Please contact the Laboratory Director at 805-781-5512 or [jbeebe@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:jbeebe@co.slo.ca.us).

