On February 27, 2020, CDC expanded its Criteria to Guide Evaluation of Persons Under Investigation (PUI) for COVID-19 to include:

- Patients traveling from multiple affected geographic locations (see current list below);
- Patients with no source of exposure AND severe symptoms (see explanation below).

Providers suspecting infection based on the PUI criteria below of COVID-19 should immediately notify the Santa Cruz County Public Health's Communicable Disease Unit at: 831-454-4114 (Monday-Friday 8AM-5PM) and 831-471-1170 (after hours and weekends). The Public Health Division, in consultation with clinicians and public health officials, will determine whether a patient is a PUI for COVID-19. Currently, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Santa Cruz County, though healthcare facilities should prepare for potential community spread.

**CDC Guidelines and Resources:**


1. Fever (subjective or confirmed) OR signs/symptoms of lower respiratory illness (e.g. cough or shortness of breath); **AND** close contact with a laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 patient within 14 days of symptom onset.

2. Fever (subjective or confirmed) **AND** signs/symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough or shortness of breath) requiring hospitalization*; **AND** a **history of travel from affected geographic areas** (see below) within 14 days of symptom onset. **As of February 26, 2020,** geographic areas with widespread or sustained community transmission include:
   - China
   - Iran
   - Italy
   - Japan
   - South Korea

* For persons with travel to affected geographic areas within 14 days that are being regularly monitored by local health departments or referred for evaluation from border screening, testing for COVID-19 can be considered at the discretion of the health officials for all persons with illnesses with fever and lower respiratory symptoms (those hospitalized and those not hospitalized).
3. Fever (subjective or confirmed) with severe acute lower respiratory illness (e.g., pneumonia, ARDS) requiring hospitalization and without alternative explanatory diagnosis (e.g., influenza); \textit{AND no source of exposure has been identified.}\n
\textbf{CDPH Laboratory update:} \\
As of February 27, 2020 at 1:00pm, CDPH reported that the state Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory (VRDL) will now conduct COVID-19 testing for PUIs meeting testing criteria. Regional public health labs cannot currently test for COVID-19. The Santa Cruz County Communicable Disease Unit must coordinate any testing of local PUIs with the individual's provider and the appropriate lab (i.e., CDC or VRDL).