# STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

STATE HEALTH OFFICER ORDER FOR TESTING FOR 2019-nCoV/COVID-19 AS A DISEASE CONTROL MEASURES TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF 2019-nCoV/COVID-19 PURSUANT TO NORTH DAKOTA CENTURY CODE § 23-01-05(12)

#### **SECTION A: SUBJECT PERSONS**

ALL PERSONS RESIDING IN THE SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT LOCATED IN THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA. THE SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING COUNTIES: ADAMS; BILLINGS; BOWMAN; DUNN; GOLDEN VALLEY; HETTINGER; SLOPE; AND STARK.

## **SECTION B: FINDINGS**

- 1. The Director General of the World Health Organization has declared that the 2019nCoV/COVID-19 constitutes a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. The Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has declared that 2019nCoV/COVID-19 constitutes a public health emergency.
- 2. On March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump issued a declaration of national emergency due to the growing 2019-nCoV/COVID-19 crisis in the United States.
- 3. On March 13, 2020, Governor Doug Burgum declared a state of emergency in response to the public health crisis resulting from 2019-nCoV/COVID-19; Executive Order 2020-03 activated the State Emergency Operation Plan (SEOP), implementing appropriate response and recovery actions and future mitigation measures.
- 4. On May 1, 2021, Governor Doug Burgum ended the state of emergency declared in response to the public health crisis resulting from 2019-nCoV/COVID-19.
- 5. Although the declared state of emergency has ended, transmission of 2019-nCoV/COVID-19 is still occurring in North Dakota and is expected to continue.
- 6. Delay in imposing this Order would significantly jeopardize the ability of the Department of Health to prevent or limit the transmission of 2019-nCoV/COVID-19, a contagious disease, to others.
- 7. Increased transmission poses a substantial threat to the residents who are living in a congregate setting and have an increased risk of developing complication related to 2019-nCoV/COVID-19, public health, and the health care system.
- 8. A written order for testing for 2019-nCoV/COVID-19 is a disease control measure and is authorized pursuant to N.D.C.C. 23-01-05(12).
- 9. Written orders issued pursuant to N.D.C.C. 23-01-05(12) shall have the same effect as a physician's standing medical order.

#### **SECTION C: REQUIREMENTS**

- 1. The Abbott BinaxNOW™ diagnostic test is authorized for purposes of screening subject persons, as defined by SECTION A, for 2019-nCoV/COVID-19 at locations with a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendment (CLIA) Certificate of Waiver. Pursuant to CLIA rules, persons who perform screenings in accordance with this Order must be appropriately trained to use the Abbott BinaxNOW™ diagnostic test and must use appropriate personal protective equipment when handling samples. Appropriately trained individuals will have completed the BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ag Card and Navica App Setup and Training and any other training required by the North Dakota Department of Health.
- 2. Any entity testing minors must obtain written parental consent.
- 3. Data for all each individual tested pursuant to this Order must be reported within twenty-four (24) hours to the North Dakota Department of Health.

### **SECTION D: EFFECTIVENESS**

The requirements of this Order are effective upon execution and until revocation by the State Health Officer.

#### **SECTION E: STATE HEALTH OFFICER EXECUTION**

Dated this 30th day of April, 2021.

Dirk Wilke, J.D., M.B.A.

State Health Officer

North Dakota Department of Health