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Dear Colleague

**Novel Coronavirus infection (COVID-19) – New regulations coming into effect on Saturday 22 February 2020**

The purpose of this letter is to make you aware of the new regulations which will come into effect on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2020 to make coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) a notifiable disease and severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2019 (SARS-CoV-2) a notifiable organism.

1. The Public Health etc. (Scotland) Act 2008 (Notifiable Disease and Notifiable Organism) Regulations 2020 amends [Part 1 and 2 of schedule 1](#) of the Public Health etc. (Scotland) Act 2008 (2008 Act) to add coronavirus disease 2019 to the list of notifiable diseases and to add severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 to the list of notifiable organisms.
2. This regulation will trigger duties on registered medical practitioners to share information prescribed in [Part 2, Section 13 of the Public Health etc. Scotland Act \(2008\)](#) with health boards where they have reasonable grounds to suspect that a person they are attending to has coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). This information must then be shared onwards to the Common Services Agency.
3. The Regulations will also have the effect if severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) is identified by a diagnostic laboratory in Scotland as prescribed in [Part 2, Section 16 of the Public Health etc. Scotland Act \(2008\)](#).

**Action**

Health boards must ensure that all registered medical practitioners and diagnostic laboratories are aware of the

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For action

Chief Executives NHS Boards  
Medical Directors NHS Boards  
Directors of Public Health  
Nurse Directors NHS Boards  
Primary Care Leads  
NHS Boards Infectious Disease Consultants  
Consultant Physicians  
General Practitioners  
Practice Nurses  
CPHMs  
Accident and Emergency Departments  
Virology Laboratories  
Travel Clinics  
Directors of Pharmacy  
NHS Health Scotland  
Health Improvement Scotland  
HIS Independent Healthcare  
NHS 24  
Sport Scotland, Sport & Exercise Medicine

For information

Health Protection Scotland  
Directors of Dentistry

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notification requirements for COVID-19 and SARS-CoV-2 under Part 2, Sections 13 and 16 respectively of the 2008 Act.

Yours sincerely

*Catherine Calderwood*

**DR CATHERINE CALDERWOOD**