



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
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MONICA BHAREL, MD, MPH
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ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

On March 10, 2020, Governor Charles D. Baker declared a State of Emergency in the Commonwealth to respond to the spread of COVID-19. The Public Health Council has approved and authorized me to take such actions, incur such liabilities, and establish such rules, requirements, and procedures which are necessary to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in order to protect the health and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth, consistent with the Governor's declaration.

Accordingly, having received that authorization from the Council and with the approval of the Governor, I issue the following Order:

To protect patients and the healthcare workforce and conserve resources, including personal protective equipment, all hospitals operated by the Department of Public Health or licensed pursuant to 105 CMR 130, and all ambulatory surgical centers licensed pursuant to 105 CMR 140, shall implement procedures published by the Department of Public Health regarding the scheduling, cancellation and performance of non-essential elective invasive procedures. Facilities subject to this order must continue to comply with all applicable statutes, regulations and guidance not inconsistent with this Order.

This Order shall remain in effect from March 18, 2020, until the State of Emergency is terminated by the Governor, or until rescinded by me, whichever shall happen first.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "m B h", written over a horizontal line.

Monica Bharel, MD, MPH
Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of
Public Health

March 15, 2020