

Department of Public Health Health Officer Order

RESCISSION OF HEALTH OFFICER ORDERS

RESCISSION OF LISTED PANDEMIC-RELATED ORDERS AND DIRECTIVES OF THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

(PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ORDER)

DATE OF RESCISSION: February 28, 2023

Effective at 11:59 p.m. on February 28, 2023, the orders and directives of the Health Officer of the City and County of San Francisco listed below are rescinded in full.

The State of California is ending its state of emergency related to Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19") on February 28, 2023 and has announced plans to rescind many of its remaining orders. The State will now shift focus to its COVID-19 SMARTER Plan (more information is available online at covid19.ca.gov/smarter/). In light of the State's end of the state-wide emergency, and based on local conditions and the current scientific and epidemiological understanding of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Health Officer of the City and County of San Francisco (the "Health Officer") is, concurrent with this Rescission, terminating the local health emergency declaration issued on March 6, 2020, in response to the spread of COVID-19. The Health Officer is also terminating most remaining COVID-19 related health orders, maintaining a couple of those orders, and issuing two new limited orders for designated high-risk settings.

As of the date of this Rescission, 38% of eligible residents in the City and County of San Francisco (the "City") have received at least one dose of the new, bivalent COVID-19 booster formulation, a rate substantially higher than the State and national average, and 86% have completed the full initial vaccination series. Although respiratory viruses are a concern this Winter, COVID-19 rates and hospitalizations from COVID-19 have generally been much lower than at this time in prior years. The most important ongoing protection against serious illness and hospitalization related to COVID-19 remains being up-to-date on COVID-19 vaccination, including receipt of the most recent booster dose recommended by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC"). The Health Officer still strongly recommends that everyone continue appropriate protections based on their situation, including the following five measures: 1) following the CDC's most current COVID-19 vaccination and booster guidance; 2) wearing a well-fitted mask in appropriate settings based on personal risk factors, especially if you or someone you live with is vulnerable to the worst outcomes of COVID-19; 3) staying home whenever you feel sick in order to protect others around you and following the CDC's and the State's isolation and quarantine guidance; 4) staying aware of medications that you can use when you get sick with COVID-19, including drugs like Paxlovid that can decrease the severity of infection, especially for anyone over 50 years old or who has other risk factors; and 5) remaining aware of information about COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses.

San Francisco remains well-positioned to continue to shift from the emergency nature of the response to the pandemic to longer-term public health strategies. Based on local, state, and national conditions, COVID-19 data and indicators, and the evolving scientific understanding of the risks posed by COVID-19, the Health Officer has determined it is now appropriate to rescind the local health orders and directives listed below relating to COVID-19. Everyone in the City remains subject to State and Federal rules and other Health Officer orders that remain in effect until they are rescinded.



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<u>List of Orders and Directives Being Rescinded:</u>

- 1. Order No. C19-07 (main health officer order, including guidance for government, businesses, and individuals and guidance and rules on masking and vaccination, originally issued March 16, 2020, and most recently revised December 21, 2022);
- 2. Order No. C19-15 (hospital and large provider testing, issued July 21, 2020, and most recently revised January 13, 2022);
- 3. Order No. C19-20 (rules for test collection sites, issued January 25, 2022);
- 4. Unnumbered Order (Optum Serve testing, issued June 22, 2020);
- 5. Directive No. 2020-02 (isolation and quarantine directive, issued May 1, 2020, and most recently revised February 17, 2023); and

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6. Directive No. 2020-03 (shell of old isolation directive, issued May 1, 2020, and most recently revised June 6, 2022).

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Susan Philip, MD, MPH,

Health Officer of the

City and County of San Francisco

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