



Memorandum

Date: February 8, 2021

Subject: DEPARTMENT DIRECTIVE ON RESUMING PATIENT ADMISSIONS TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE HOSPITALS-ATASCADERO

The Director of the Department of State Hospitals (DSH) is issuing this directive pursuant to Governor Gavin Newsom's Proclamation of a State of Emergency dated March 4, 2020, and Executive Order N-35-20 issued March 21, 2020. The Director is ending the directive issued on January 12, 2021, that temporarily suspended admissions for 30 days and effective February 8, 2021, Department of State Hospitals-Atascadero (DSH-A) will be resuming the admission of patients committed pursuant to Penal Code section 1370, et seq; and Penal Code section 1026 subject to COVID-19 admission protocols.

DSH's COVID-19 protocols regarding admission of patients include admitting new patients and those returning from outside medical facilities to Admission Observation Units. Patients admitted to these units will be observed for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 for a period of at least 14 days and receive serial testing for COVID-19. After this period, if they are negative for COVID-19, they will be moved to their regularly assigned treatment unit. These COVID-19 protocols regarding admission of patients will help reduce the potential for widespread introduction or transmission of COVID-19, in collaboration with our criminal justice partners. More detailed information regarding these admission protocols can be found here:

https://www.dsh.ca.gov/Treatment/docs/COVID19_DSH_Jails_Admission_discharge_protocol.pdf

Please contact DSH's Office of Communications if you have questions, at (916) 654-2410 or at OfficeofCommunications@dsh.ca.gov.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S Clendenin". The signature is fluid and cursive.

STEPHANIE CLENDENIN
Director