



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

BOARD OF HEALTH: 1/12/2023
LAW DEPARTMENT:
RECORDS DEPARTMENT:

**AMENDMENT TO THE REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE CONTROL OF
COMMUNICABLE AND NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND CONDITIONS**

WHEREAS, Section 5-301(b) of the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter authorizes the Board of Health to issue Department of Public Health regulations for the preservation and promotion of the health of the people of Philadelphia; and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Disease Control and Prevention Law of 1955, 1956, April 23, P.L. 1510, 35 P.S. § 521.1 *et seq.*, (“the DCPL”) and Section 6-201 of The Philadelphia Code authorize the Board of Health to establish lists of reportable diseases and conditions; and

WHEREAS, Section 4 of the DCPL and Section 6-202 of The Philadelphia Code require health care providers and laboratories identifying these reportable diseases and conditions designated by the Board of Health, to report the occurrence of such diseases and conditions to the Department; and

WHEREAS, The Philadelphia Board of Health has adopted *Regulations Governing the Control of Communicable and Non-communicable Diseases and Conditions* (“Regulations”); and

WHEREAS, the Regulations contain a listing of such diseases and conditions and the methods of reporting the occurrence thereof in Sections 2, 3, and 10 of said Regulations; and

WHEREAS, Severe Maternal Morbidity, as experienced by pregnant people, is defined as one or more of the following: (1) transfusion of greater than four units of packed red blood cells, (2) intensive care unit admission, (3) extended postpartum length of stay greater than or equal to five days, and (4) readmission to a Facility within thirty (30) days of discharge; and

WHEREAS, for every 1 maternal death, there are 70 to 80 cases of severe illness in pregnant people identified at the time of birth; and

WHEREAS, the health impacts of Severe Maternal Morbidity include, but are not limited to, fetal death, NICU admission, greater risk of cardiovascular disease after pregnancy, and higher risk for postpartum mental illness; and

WHEREAS, improved understanding of Severe Maternal Morbidity is a necessary foundation for developing safer, more effective approaches to obstetric care, and for establishing systems to prevent morbidity and mortality in pregnant people

WHEREAS, the Board of Health finds Severe Maternal Morbidity to be a condition of public health importance, which therefore should be included on the list of reportable diseases and conditions in the Regulations; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Health hereby amends the *Regulations Governing the Control of Communicable and Non-communicable Diseases and Conditions* to read as follows (additions in **Bold** and deletions in ~~Strikethrough~~):

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE AND
NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND CONDITIONS

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2. REPORTABLE DISEASES AND CONDITIONS

The Board declares the following diseases, unusual outbreaks of illness, noncommunicable diseases and conditions, cancer, poisonings and occupational diseases to be reportable:

(a) Diseases, Conditions, Etc.

* * *

(*) Severe Maternal Morbidity, as experienced by pregnant people, of one or more of the following types: (1) transfusion of greater than four units of packed red blood cells, (2) intensive care unit admission, (3) extended postpartum length of stay greater than or equal to five days, and (4) readmission to a Facility within thirty (30) days of discharge.

3. METHODS OF REPORTING DISEASES, THE CONTENT OF REPORTS, AND TO WHOM DISEASES ARE TO BE REPORTED

(a) Communicable Diseases

* * *

(*) Other Conditions

(1) Severe Maternal Morbidity.

- a. **As provided for the specific condition in Section 10 of this regulation and any condition specific regulations as identified in Section 10.**

10. REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO THE CONTROL OF THE INFECTED INDIVIDUAL, CONTACTS, AND ENVIRONMENT FOR EACH REPORTABLE DISEASE

* * *

(*) Severe Maternal Morbidity.

- (1) Reporting. Report shall be made upon request of the Department as provided in the “Regulation Relating to Severe Maternal Morbidity Surveillance by the Division of Maternal, Child, and Family Health of the Philadelphia Department of Public Health.”**
- (2) Isolation. No isolation is required.**
- (3) Concurrent disinfection. No concurrent disinfection is required.**
- (4) Terminal disinfection. No terminal disinfection is required.**
- (5) Quarantine. No quarantine of contacts shall be required.**