



Date: January 8, 2020

To: Washington State Board of Health Members

From: Stephen Kutz, BSN, MPH

Subject: Briefing – Notifiable Conditions Rule Making – Chapter 246-101 WAC

Background and Summary:

The purpose of chapter 246-101 WAC, Notifiable Conditions, is to provide critical information to public health authorities to aid them in protecting and improving public health through prevention and control of infectious and noninfectious conditions as required under RCW 43.20.050, 70.104.055, and 43.70.545. The State Board of Health (Board) and Washington State Department of Health filed a CR-101 in April 2017. Initial work with stakeholders indicated a need to expand the scope of the rule making. The original CR-101 was withdrawn and a new CR-101 was filed on March 18, 2018.

The recommended changes include adding notification and specimen submission requirements for “new conditions” and conditions currently identified as “other rare diseases of public health significance”. The proposed rule will also recommend changes to update and clarify notification and specimen submission requirements for certain existing conditions, clarify and improve requirements for suspected cases, revise the reporting requirements for veterinarians and the Department of Agriculture, update statutory references in the rules, and update references to the 2006 Security and Confidentiality Guidelines developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to the 2011 publication, the most recent version.

I have invited Vicki Bouvier, Sierra Rotakhina, and Alexandra Montañó from the Department of Health to provide a briefing on the current progress of the rule update ahead of an anticipated rules hearing in March.

To request this document in an alternate format or a different language, please contact Kelie Kahler, Washington State Board of Health Communication Manager, at 360-236-4102 or by email at kelie.kahler@sboh.wa.gov. TTY users can dial 711.

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