**ACDP Communicable Disease Services during COVID-19**

The SARS-CoV-2 pandemic has been a challenging time for health care professionals in clinical settings and public health agencies. Our Local Public Health Authorities (LPHAs) have responded to the current COVID-19 surge and in addition are in the process of planning for vaccine rollout.

Local health authorities have reduced capacity for other standard public health activities, such as contacting patients with communicable diseases. We need to make sure that we are aware of what is being reported to the local health jurisdictions but also assisting in disease prevention and treatment as necessary.

We recommend:

Continue to report all cases of communicable disease by creating cases in ORPHEUS. Please provide all relevant information in the report; but for most of them, contacting the patient and conducting an investigation can be omitted during the time of COVID-19.

In the interest of public health, we believe that LPHAs should prioritize investigation of the following communicable diseases in accord with standard requirements for completion and timeliness outlined in the [investigative guidelines](https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASESCONDITIONS/COMMUNICABLEDISEASE/REPORTINGCOMMUNICABLEDISEASE/REPORTINGGUIDELINES/Pages/index.aspx):

* **Animal bites where rabies vaccine is indicated**
* **Shiga-toxin-producing E. coli and HUS**
* **Hepatitis B**
* **Listeriosis**
* **Meningococcal Diseases**
* **Shigellosis**