



MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 20, 2021

TO: PROVIDERS OF ELECTIVE SURGERIES, DENTAL CARE, AND AMBULATORY CARE SERVICES, INCLUDING COUNSELING AND OTHER HEALING ARTS

FROM: SUSAN PHILIP, MD, MPH, HEALTH OFFICER OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

RE: RESCINDING OF HEALTH OFFICER ORDER AND DIRECTIVES

Background: As COVID-19 case rates decrease and vaccination rates increase county-wide, the City and County of San Francisco Health Officer has rescinded (repealed) **Health Officer Order No. C19-08b** and the accompanying **Directives of the Health Officer Nos. 2020-08b, 2020-09c, and 2020-20c**, effective immediately. This order and these directives, which related to the provision of outpatient care, no longer impose any obligations.¹ These actions are done to promote the resumption of routine medical care in facilities with the continued use of appropriate COVID-19 infection control and prevention measures.

The Health Officer reminds all providers of such care of their obligations to follow applicable professional licensing or certification requirements and strongly recommends that they follow guidelines from the United States [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](https://www.cdc.gov) and/or relevant professional groups and industry standards regarding COVID-19. All such providers also remain subject to other applicable Health Officer orders and directives, available online at www.sfdph.org/healthorders and www.sfdph.org/directives.

The following highlights the transition to [CDC infection and prevention control](https://www.cdc.gov/infection-control) and [healthcare facilities guidance topics](https://www.cdc.gov/healthcare-facilities), which includes but is not limited to:

- Screening and triage of patients and staff for COVID-19 symptoms and exposure
- Usage of appropriate PPE for clients and employees in different settings
- Approved signage, [social distancing](https://www.cdc.gov/social-distancing), and hand hygiene
- Optimizing engineering controls and indoor air quality
- [Testing procedures](https://www.cdc.gov/testing-procedures) and considerations with community transmission rates
- Contact tracing, reporting, and responding to SARS-CoV-2 exposures among HCPs and others
- Dental setting specific practices can be found from the [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov) and [CDPH](https://www.cdph.ca)

Getting vaccinated is one of the most important ways to end the COVID-19 pandemic. The Health Officer strongly requests that all healthcare facilities and providers create systems for their patients to access vaccinations and to encourage all persons to get vaccinated if they are clinically able and to work to remove all barriers to vaccination. This memo can be found online at www.sfdcp.org/routinecare

¹ These rescinded items related to care provided on an outpatient basis, including but not limited to elective surgery centers, dental services, ambulatory care, and outpatient care provided by anyone licensed under Division 2 of the California Business and Professions Code or anyone supervised by such licensed professionals.



San Francisco Department of Public Health

COVID Command Center

alongside SF DPH's [COVID-19 Info for SF Healthcare Providers](#).