

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 15, 2020

To: PHC Providers

From: PHC Senior Leadership

Subject: Interim Guidance on Scheduling of Patients 65 and Older

Dear PHC Physicians, APPs, and Staff,

Updates and recommendations pertaining to COVID-19 continue to change rapidly. Today, Governor Newsom recommended that Californians 65 years of age and older isolate themselves at home in an effort to slow the spread of the virus. The Governor has not provided a timeframe for this recommendation, and we expect to have this interim guidance in place through March 27, 2020 at a minimum.

In response to the Governor's recommendation, we are asking each clinic site to call patients 65 and older and give them the option of being seen or postponing their appointment. We understand some patients will choose to keep their appointment. We should respect that choice and continue to provide in-person care when it is requested by a patient.

Specialty providers should work closely with hospital leadership to prioritize elective surgeries based on clinical judgement and hospital capacity and to determine which cases should be safely postponed.

These are challenging and unprecedented times, and we sincerely thank all of you for the care you provide our patients. The PHC Senior Leadership team will continue to provide updates and guidance as we receive information. Please check your email daily.

Sincerely,

Scott Robertson, MD
Tracy Belsan, COO
Gigi Nickas, MD
Steve Goodman, MD
Monique Diaz, MD
Janette Avina, RN