

# Introduction to the Role of Local Public Health (Nursing) During a Pandemic

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Chief Public Health Nurse

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## Pandemic Defined

- AN EPIDEMIC is a disease that affects a large number of people within a community, population, or region.
- **A PANDEMIC is an epidemic that's spread over multiple countries or continents.**
- ENDEMIC is something that belongs to a particular people or country.
- AN OUTBREAK is a greater-than-anticipated increase in the number of endemic cases. It can also be a single case in a new area. If it's not quickly controlled, an outbreak can become an epidemic.

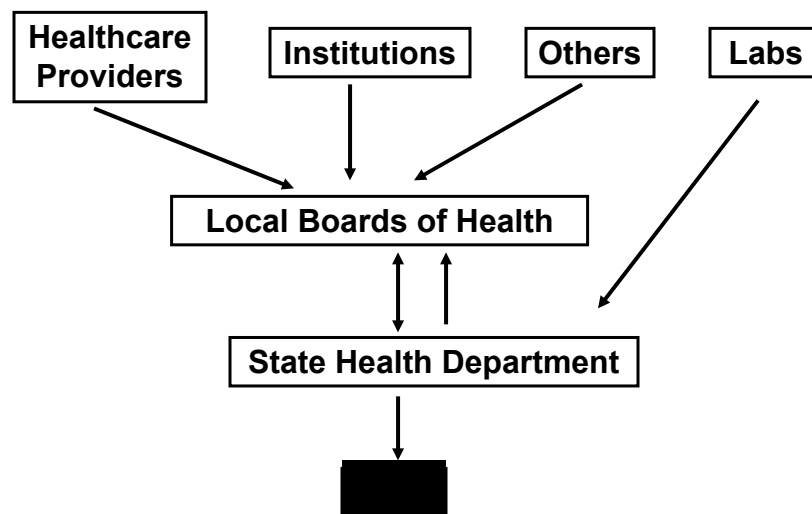
*When COVID-19 was limited to Wuhan, China, it was an epidemic. The geographical spread turned it into a pandemic.*

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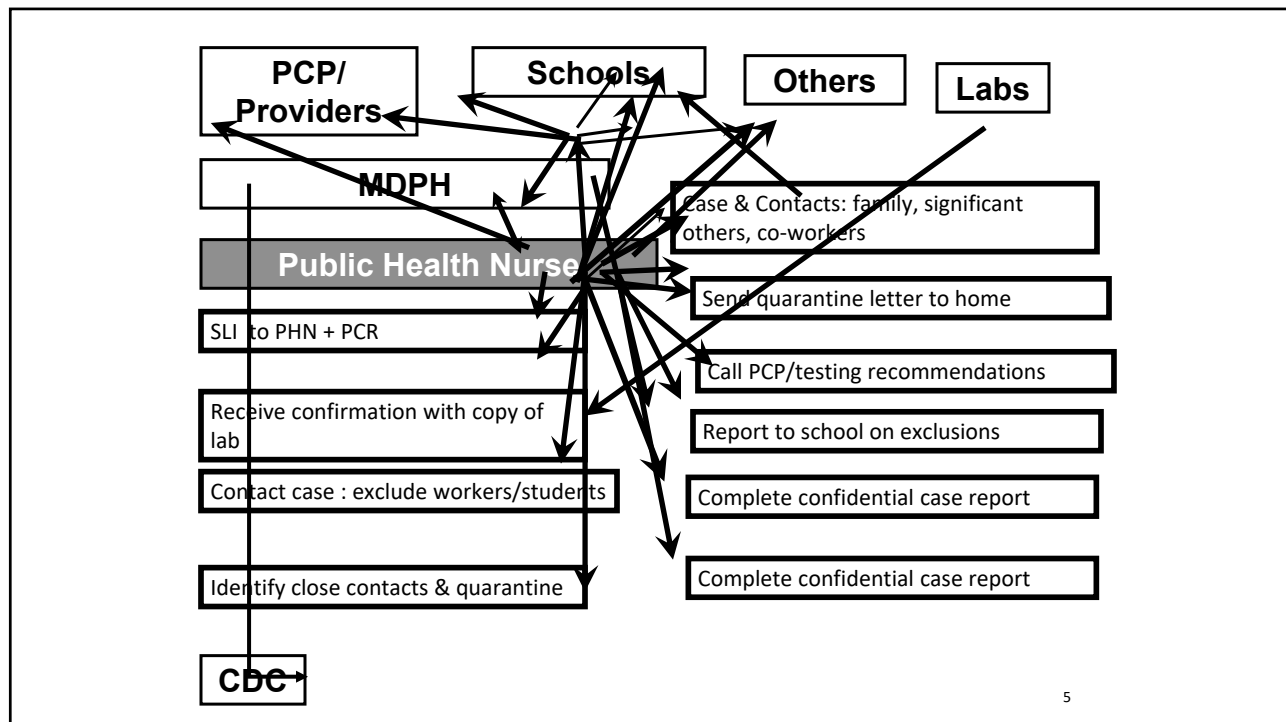


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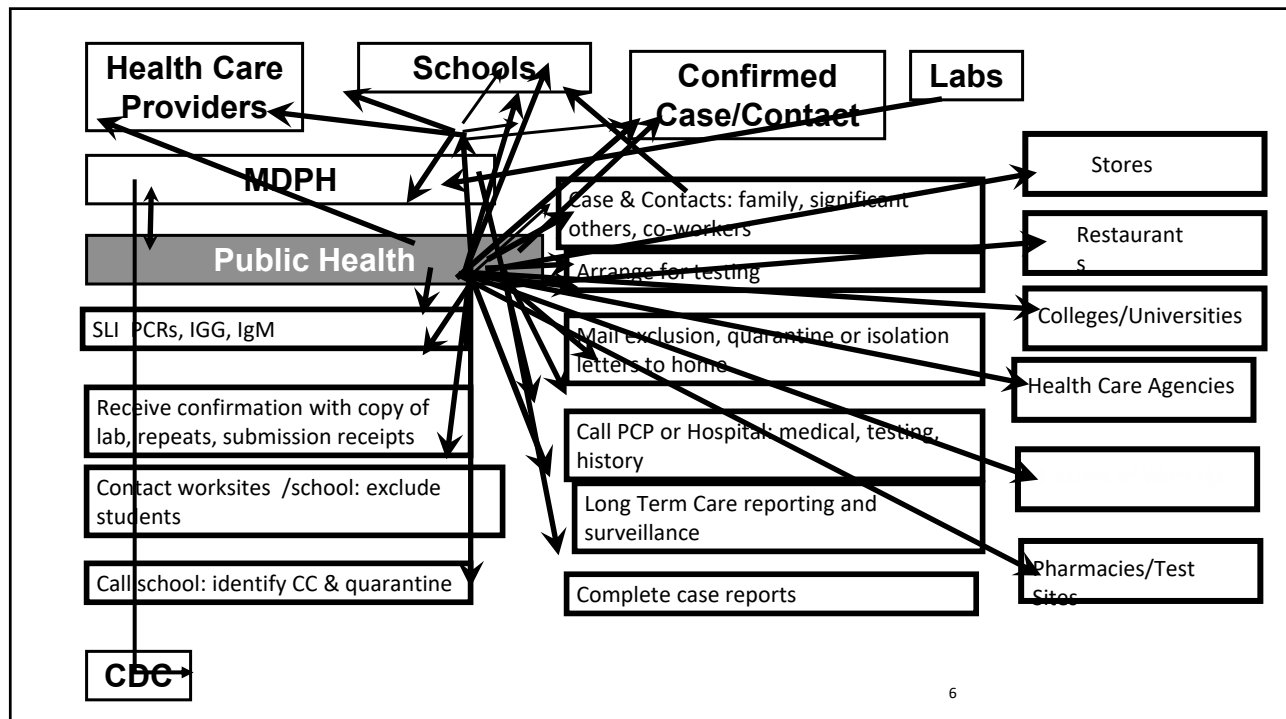
## National Disease Reporting Pathway



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Executive Office of Health and Human Services - Virtual Gateway

**Virtual Gateway**

**Welcome to the Virtual Gateway**

**Login**

Username:

Password:  (Case sensitive)

[Forgot Password](#)

**Virtual Gateway Customer Service**

Monday through Friday  
8:30 am to 5:00 pm  
800-421-0938 (Voice)  
617-547-4576 (TTY for the deaf and hard of hearing)

**Important Messages**

When logging in, you may be required to change your password and update your user profile. For assistance with logging in, please click [here](#).

**Maintenance Notices**

**Virtual Gateway Organization Registration Process & User Request Form Updates 08/31/20:**

Become a Virtual Gateway Provider. The Virtual Gateway has changed how organizations submit VG Organization and AA requests (new or existing updates). Authorized Representatives are now required to submit organization and AA information through the new VG Online Registration Portal (<https://www.mass.gov/virtual-gateway-provider-users>).

Virtual Gateway User Request Forms (URF). All VG URFs have been updated as of August 31, 2020. Visit <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/user-request-forms> to download the latest versions. If you do not see a URF on our website, reach out to your VG Business Point of Contact (POC).

If you have any questions, contact Virtual Gateway Customer Service at 800-421-0938.

Evolving Advisories  
Communication with COVID Response Team  
Onboarding New Users  
Nuances of MAVEN  
How To's

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Welcome to MAPHN  
Massachusetts Association of Public Health Nurses

HOME MEMBERSHIP RENEW OR JOIN PAIN RESOURCES ABOUT US EVENTS & MEETINGS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES BOARD MEMBERS

"MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE ENSURING CONDITIONS IN WHICH ALL RESIDENTS CAN ACHIEVE OPTIMAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING."

The Clinic Planning in a Climate of Covid for New Public Health Nurses Webinar Slides 9/2/2020

Spring/Summer 2019  
*THE PULSE* Newsletter

[Click here to JOIN, RENEW OR UPDATE your membership profile](#)

**CONGRATULATIONS!**


2020 Champion of Public Health Nurses Cynthia LaRosa  
2020 Lifetime Achievement Award Lella Mercer  
2020 MAPHN Presidential Award Caroline Kinsella  
2020 Public Health Nurse Award Members of MAPHN

**MAPHN Partners**

MSNO Massachusetts School Nurse Organization  
MAOHN Massachusetts Association of Occupational Health Nurses  
MPPH Massachusetts Public Health Nurses  
MAHEP Massachusetts Environmental Health Association  
MAHBO Massachusetts Association of Health Boards  
MAHBO Massachusetts Health Officers Association  
Local Public Health Learning Institute  
Department of Health Leaders



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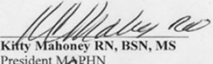
Memorandum of Understanding  
Between  
Massachusetts Association of Public Health Nurses  
And  
Massachusetts School Nurse Organization

**H1N1 in 2009**

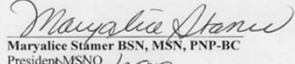
MAPHN advanced our 1<sup>st</sup>  
MOU with MSNO and MaAOHN

Directives from  
WHO  
CDC  
MDPH


Vaccination Efforts



Kitty Mahoney RN, BSN, MS  
President MAPHN  
Date 8-17-2009



Maryalice Stamer BSN, MSN, PNP-BC  
President MSNO  
Date 8-17-2009



Memorandum of Understanding  
Between  
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**Novel Coronavirus NCoV COVID-19 in 2020**

MAPHN President Ruth Mori advanced our 2<sup>nd</sup> MOU with  
MSNO President Jenny Gormley

Directives & Advisories from  
WHO, NIH, CDC, MDPH, White House

Education Campaign, Politics and Policies  
Vaccination Efforts coming....


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<https://www.metrowestdailynews.com/news/20200530/team-of-framingham-nurses-is-tracking-coronavirus-they-want-you-to-answer-your-phone>

## Many Hats of One Nurse: Per Case and Case Contacts

Receive the lab report/self report  
PHN Assigned  
Initial Call for data solicitation  
Who is in the household  
Where do they work  
Who to quarantine/isolate  
Demographics (age, race,  
language)

Public  
Health  
Nurse



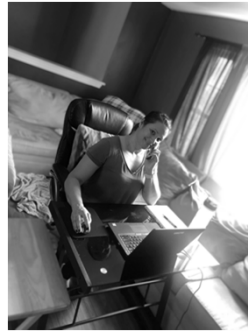
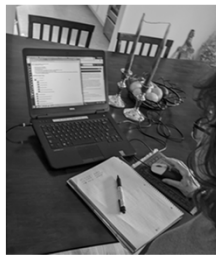
Hotel for Isolation/Quarantine  
Food Resources  
Pharmacy delivery  
Taxi Service (hx of use)  
Notify/Letters to employers  
Testing Worksite options  
Review MDPH for changes to  
Isolation  
Quarantine  
Return to work  
Essential Workers  
Opening  
Massachusetts

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## The School Nurse, Visiting Nurse, Academic Nurse become Public Health Nurses!



Heidi Harper  
Linda Renault  
Michele Reidt  
Marilyn Cowan  
Omayra Nieves  
Sandra Dickie.....



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## Health Department & Municipal Staff Pandemic Response

### New work

Hotel Liaison  
COVID-19 Policy  
Worksite Evaluation (persons per SF)  
Compliance Checks  
Complaint Follow up

Transition to Home Office  
Staggered Schedule  
Other VITAL Public Health Initiatives "on hold"

The Mayor  
The Health Director  
Public Information Officer  
Newspapers  
Social Media  
Challenges

Mask

Non

Period of

aries

iance

Unrest



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Framingham Health Department**

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## Two Types of Public Messaging

Masks Requirements  
Social Distancing  
Handwashing



Screening Protocols  
COVID-19 Policy Developments  
Testing / Lab results  
Isolation / Quarantine Orders



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## Local Public Health During COVID-19

Case investigation & Contact Tracing  
Exclusions, Quarantines, Isolations  
Messaging the Public\*  
Serving the Public (still)  
Data and Surveillance  
Identification of "hot spots"  
Enforcement of regulations  
Reporting Requirements (Local State)  
Information Sharing (Partners, Public, Media)

*The heart of our work lies in health promotion and disease prevention. While our health promotion pathways bring us to many new fronts, the pathway to contain disease and prevent further spread lies in the reporting requirements of Public Health Nurses. The information is vital to our surveillance of ongoing challenges and emerging disease.*

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## The Immediate LBOH Staffing Framingham

The Health Director is the “Face of Public Health” for Framingham. Dr. Wong communicates directly to the office of the Mayor, The City Council, the Public and the Media unless otherwise assigned.

The Senior Environmental Health Manager, Robin Williams, directs the Health Department Health Inspectors by district assignment within the city to follow up on inspections, complaints, compliance and permitting. We have a team of fantastic Health Inspectors. They are the enforcement agents for COVID-19.

Chief PHN directs the Nurse COVID Response Team. In Framingham it is made up of School Nurses, VNA Nurses, Academic Nurses, Nurse Volunteers and Public Health Nurses who have oversee approximately 3,400 cases, contacts, probable cases, suspect cases and revoked events since March 1, 2020

*Together the Environmental Arm and the Public Health Nursing Arm  
work in TANDEM to “FLATTEN THE CURVE\*”.*