DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SUBJECT: COMMUNICABLE DISEASE EXPOSURE
AND TESTING FLOWCHART

EMT, PARAMEDIC, MICN
REFERENCE NO. 836.1

HOSPITAL NOTIFIES THE
DESIGNATED OFFICER

PERSONNEL MAY HAVE
BEEN EXPOSED

EXPOSED INDIVIDUAL COMPLIES WITH
AGENCY’S POST-EXPOSURE PROTOCOL

EXPOSURE IS EVALUATED BY A CERTIFYING
PHYSICIAN

EXPOSURE DETERMINED TO BE SIGNIFICANT?

CERTIFYING PHYSICIAN CONTACTS SOURCE
PATIENT’S ATTENDING PHYSICIAN TO
DETERMINE PATIENT’S COMMUNICABLE
DISEASE STATUS

EXPOSED INDIVIDUAL RECEIVES COUNSELING

CONSENT TO TEST

GIVEN

REFUSED OR UNABLE***

SOURCE PATIENT IS TESTED FOR
COMMUNICABLE DISEASE AND RESULTS
RELEASED TO EXPOSED INDIVIDUAL

IS SOURCE PATIENT’S BLOOD**
AVAILABLE?

Yes

No

IS EXPOSED INDIVIDUAL’S BASELINE
COMMUNICABLE DISEASE STATUS
NEGATIVE?

Yes

No

SOURCE PATIENT’S BLOOD**
IS TESTED; RESULTS RELEASED TO
EXPOSED INDIVIDUAL

EXPOSED INDIVIDUAL RECEIVES COUNSELING

* California law prohibits an exposed individual from attempting to directly obtain informed consent for communicable disease testing from a source patient
** Or other patient sample available for testing
*** If source patient is deceased, any available blood or patient sample may be tested without consent

EFFECTIVE: 04-01-04
REVISED: 07-01-18
SUPERSEDES: 06-01-08