STEVEN M. NEUHAUS   **PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT**
County Executive

Dr. Irina Gelman, DPM, MPH, PhDc   December 3, 2020
Commissioner of Health

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO PEDIATRIC, FAMILY PRACTICE, PRIMARY CARE, EMERGENCY ROOM, INTERNAL MEDICINE, URGENT CARE, INFECTIOUS DISEASE, OB/GYN, LABORORATIES, AMBULATORY CARE STAFF, HOSPITALS, NURSING HOMES, ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES, SKILLED -NURSING FACILITIES, AND LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES.

PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT #16
COVID-19 Update in Orange County

As of December 3, 2020, Orange County has 17,578 cases of COVID-19 since March. There were 231 cases reported on December 3rd, which is the highest report number of cases in one day since April 29th. The 10-day rolling average for Orange County is 150.6 cases per day as of December 2, 2020.

Recently, CDC provided public health agencies with two options to shorten the length of quarantine in some situations. Please note that, at this time the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and OCDOH have NOT revised their guidelines and **have NOT** adopted the CDC quarantine options. CDC continues to endorse that a 14-day quarantine is the safest and best practice for reducing the spread of COVID-19 and that local public health authorities make the final decision about how long quarantine should last in the communities they serve. The viral incubation period of 2-14 days has not changed and therefore OCDOH will continue to require a 14-day quarantine for individuals who have been exposed to COVID-19 unless new scientific evidence or mandatory guidelines emerge.

Orange County Department of Health would also like to remind health care provider offices to please continue to inform patients who are being tested for COVID-19 that they **must quarantine** at home while awaiting test results. This is a precaution to further reduce the risk of potential exposure to others. Persons who test positive for COVID-19 are subject to an immediate mandatory isolation order issued by OCDOH whether symptomatic or asymptomatic.

If you have questions, please call Orange County Department of Health at 845-291-2330.