



CLASSIFICATION OF COVID-19 CASES

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**(April 10, 2020)
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Effective Monday, April 13, COVID-19 cases in Buchanan County will be classified as either confirmed or probable in accordance with a directive from the Centers for Disease Control. The classification of either confirmed or probable is based on the following criteria and definition:

- **Confirmed Case** – A COVID-19 confirmed case meets the confirmed laboratory evidence, which is the detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA in a clinical specimen using an approved detection test verified by a certified testing laboratory.
- **Probable Case** – A COVID-19 probable case meets clinical criteria AND epidemiologic evidence (close contact with a confirmed or probable case; travel to or residence in an area with sustained, ongoing community spread; or a member of a risk cohort as defined by public health authorities during an outbreak), with no confirmatory laboratory testing performed for COVID-19.

A probable case would also include a death certificate that lists COVID-19 disease or SARS-CoV-2 as a cause of death or a significant condition contributing to death.

Reporting of COVID-19 cases through the health department will include both the confirmed and probable cases in Buchanan County. As a result of this change in reporting, the numbers of COVID-19 cases will likely increase more substantially. At this time, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (MO-DHSS) is only reporting information on confirmed cases and will not be reporting those meeting the definition of probable cases. This will result in differing numbers of cases reported in Buchanan County.

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