



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
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## RESCISSION OF ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

On March 10, 2020, Governor Charles D. Baker declared a State of Emergency in the Commonwealth to respond to the spread of COVID-19. The Public Health Council has approved and authorized me to act to take such actions, incur such liabilities, and establish such rules, requirements, and procedures which are necessary to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in order to protect the health and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth, consistent with the Governor's declaration.

On May 18, 2020, having received the authorization from the Council described above, and with the approval of the Governor, I issued an Order of the Commissioner of Public Health Exempting Hospitals from the Requirements of M.G.L. c. 111, §231.

Both the COVID-19 hospital inpatient and COVID-19 intensive care census have declined. The 7-day average of COVID-19 hospitalizations decreased from 2,343 on January 8, 2021 to 926 on February 24, 2021. The COVID-19 ICU census was at 455 on January 7, 2021 and was at 219 on February 24, 2021. As of February 25, 2021, all Health and Medical Coordinating Coalition regions have been deescalated to Tier 3 of the Commonwealth Resurgence Plan.

Accordingly, as its provisions are no longer necessary to protect patients and the healthcare workforce, or to conserve resources, I now RESCIND the Order of the Commissioner of Public Health Exempting Hospitals from the Requirements of M.G.L. c. 111, §231, effective March 1, 2021.

All applicable statutes, regulations and guidance not inconsistent with this Rescission remain in effect. Nothing in this Rescission shall prohibit my issuing of Orders in accordance with M.G.L. c. 17, §2A or other applicable law.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "mBharel".

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Monica Bharel, MD, MPH  
Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Public Health

March 1, 2021