



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

December 14, 2018

Dear Provider:

The Department of Health (Department) is responding to your request for information on the application of Act 112-2018, “The Patient Test Results Information Act” in Pennsylvania. As you know, Act 112 requires that when, in the judgment of the entity performing the diagnostic imaging service, a significant abnormality may exist, the entity performing the diagnostic imaging service shall directly notify the patient or the patient’s designee by providing notice that the entity has completed a review of the test performed on the patient and has sent results to the health care practitioner who ordered the diagnostic imaging service.

Although the Department’s primary concern is ensuring that the health and welfare of the commonwealth’s citizens are not adversely affected as Act 112 begins to be implemented, we understand that implementation may vastly change the way diagnostic imaging services are delivered to patients in this commonwealth, as well as how patients are notified of their results. Considering the need for an educational period, the Department will not issue any fines or citations for failure to comply with Act 112. Licensed facilities must still establish a policy in accordance with the requirements of Act 112 and include in that policy how the licensed facility will notify patients of abnormal results. For a period of one year from the effective date of the act, if the Department finds that a licensed facility has failed to comply with the act, or its policy, the Department will issue a letter to the facility providing the facility with information so that any issues may be remedied. At the end of that period, on or about December 23, 2019, the Department will issue final clarifying guidance, which will have information concerning full implementation for the various provisions of Act 112.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the application of Act 112, please be sure to submit those to: RA-DHSECOFHEALTH@pa.gov. Please include “Act 112” in the subject line. Questions will be filtered through this specific resource account, so the Department can keep track of what types of questions and concerns being raised, what areas of Act 112 are being questioned, and whether there are issues that have not been contemplated. The responses to submitted questions will be publicly posted on www.health.pa.gov. If I can be of any more assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rachel L. Levine".

Rachel L. Levine, MD
Secretary of Health