Print on Local Health Department Letterhead

ISOLATION ORDER
Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
72 Hour Rule: SARS

You may have been exposed to and developed some symptoms of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). Your illness requires further public health investigation. SARS is a disease associated with fever, cough, and possibly pneumonia or other respiratory illness. It may be passed from person to person mostly by coughing or sneezing. If SARS spreads in the community, it would have severe public health consequences.

I, _____, Health Director of the _____ County/District Health Department, pursuant to authority vested in me by General Statute (G.S.) 130A-145, issue this ISOLATION ORDER to _____(patient name) DOB: _____.

You are required to remain at _____ for the specified time of 72 hours.

You have been properly informed and counseled by _____, RN, Communicable Disease Nurse with the _____County/District Health Department regarding the control measures for SARS. Failure to comply with the control measures is a violation of G.S. 130A-144.

You are required to:

- Follow these instructions for 72 hours.
- Cooperate with the local health department in monitoring your illness, as well as illness in household members and close contacts.
- If during the 72 hours your symptoms become worse, or you develop a new symptom like fever, cough, or shortness of breath, seek medical attention.
- Be sure to contact your healthcare provider beforehand to let them know you may have been exposed to SARS so arrangements can be made, as necessary, to prevent transmission to others in the healthcare setting.
- Do <u>not</u> go to work, school, child care, community gatherings, or other public areas, and limit all activities outside the home.
- Wash your hands often and well, especially after you blow your nose.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you sneeze or cough.
- If possible, <u>wear a surgical mask</u> when in close contact with uninfected persons. If you can't wear a mask, the members of your household should wear surgical masks when they are around you.
- Don't share silverware, towels, or bedding. Don't reuse these items until they have been washed with soap and hot water.
- Clean surfaces (counter or tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, etc.) that have been contaminated by your body fluids (sweat, saliva, mucous, vomit or urine) with a household disinfectant used according to the manufacturer's instructions. Wear disposable gloves during all cleaning activities. Throw these gloves away when you are done. <u>Do not</u> reuse them.

If you fail to comply with this ISOLATION ORDER, you will be subject to prosecution for a misdemeanor offense pursuant NC law (G.S. 130A-25) and punishable by up to two (2) years imprisonment.

If you plan to move to a new address or leave the county, you are required to notify this Health Department and obtain prior approval.

The staff of this Health Department remains available to provide assistance and counseling to you concerning your SARS and compliance with this ISOLATION ORDER.

You may petition the Superior Court for review of the restriction of your freedom of movement contained in this ISOLATION ORDER pursuant to G.S. 130A-145(d).

_____
Health Director Date Time

Issued by: _____
Date

I have received the original copy of this order: _____
Patient Signature Date

Revised 25 November 2003