

# STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Corning Tower      The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza      Albany, New York 12237

Antonia C. Novello, M.D., M.P.H., Dr.P.H.  
*Commissioner*

Dennis P. Whalen  
*Executive Deputy Commissioner*

## DESIGNATION OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

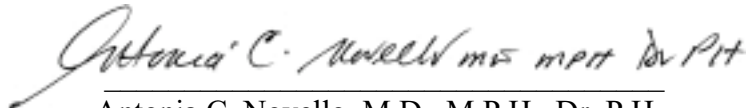
WHEREAS, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (“SARS”) is a disease associated with fever and signs and symptoms of pneumonia or other respiratory illness, appears to be transmitted from person to person predominantly through droplet transmission and possibly more broadly through the air or from objects that have been contaminated, and if spread in the population could have significant public health consequences; and

WHEREAS, SARS is believed to have emerged as a human pathogen in China in November, 2002 and as of April 10, 2003, two thousand seven hundred and eighty-one (2,781) suspected and /or probable cases of SARS were reported to the World Health Organization from 18 countries, including Canada and the United States, with one hundred and eleven (111) deaths reported; and

WHEREAS, on April 4, 2003, President George W. Bush issued an Executive Order adding SARS to the list of communicable diseases for which patients can be quarantined under federal authority and which are specified pursuant to Public Health Service Act Section 361(b); and

WHEREAS, as of April 10, 2003 twenty two (22) cases of suspected SARS were reported in New York: seven (7) in New York City and fifteen (15) in New York State outside of New York City;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me by 10 NYCRR Section 2.1(a), I have determined that SARS as it may be officially defined from time to time by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is communicable, rapidly emergent and a significant threat to the public health, and hereby designate SARS as a communicable disease under 10 NYCRR Section 2.1. This designation shall remain in effect until formal review on May 16, 2003, at the next scheduled meeting of the Public Health Council.



Antonia C. Novello, M.D., M.P.H., Dr. P.H.  
Commissioner of Health

Date: April 10, 2003