
Novel Coronavirus

What You Need to Know



What is novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

Novel Coronavirus, or 2019-nCoV, is a new respiratory virus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China in December 2019.

What are the symptoms of 2019-nCoV?

People diagnosed with 2019-nCoV have reported mild to severe respiratory illness 2 to 14 days after exposure. Symptoms include:

- fever
- cough
- shortness of breath

How is 2019-nCoV spread?

Health experts are still learning the details about how this new coronavirus spreads. Other coronaviruses and respiratory illnesses are spread mainly via respiratory droplets of an infected person, through

- the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes
- touching a surface or object that has virus on it and then touching your mouth, nose, and/or eyes.

Has anyone in the United States gotten infected?

There has been a limited number of 2019-nCoV cases confirmed in the United States from travelers returning to the U.S. from abroad.

Am I at risk for 2019-nCoV infection?

Currently in the United States, there is a low risk of 2019-nCoV infection to the general public. However, this is a rapidly evolving situation and the risk assessment may change.

The risk to individuals is dependent on exposure. At this time, some people will have an increased risk of infection, for example healthcare workers caring for 2019-nCoV patients and other close contacts. For the general American public, who are unlikely to be exposed to this virus, the immediate health risk from 2019-nCoV is considered low.

Can I still travel to countries where 2019-nCoV cases have occurred?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recommended avoiding all nonessential travel to Hubei Province, China, including Wuhan. Travelers to China and other countries should practice usual precautions, including avoiding contact with sick people, avoiding animals (alive or dead) and animal markets, and washing their hands often.

The situation is evolving, and these notices may be updated as more information becomes available. Check CDC at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html> for the most current travel alerts.

What if I recently traveled to China and got sick?

If you were in China within the past 14 days and feel sick with fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, you should get medical care. Call your health care provider's office before you go and tell them about your travel and symptoms. They will give you instructions on how to get care without exposing other people to your illness. While sick, avoid contact with people, don't go out, and delay any travel to reduce the possibility of spreading illness to others.

Is there a vaccine or treatments?

There is not a vaccine or specific treatment recommended for 2019-nCoV. People with 2019-nCoV can seek medical care to help relieve symptoms.

How can I help protect myself?

The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus. The simple everyday actions you can take to help prevent the spread of flu and the common cold will also help prevent the spread of coronaviruses. These include:

- Washing your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds, and help young children do the same. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Covering your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throwing the tissue in the trash.
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoiding close contact, such as kissing, sharing cups, or sharing eating utensils, with people who are sick.
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces, such as toys and doorknobs.



NURSE ON CALL PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION HOTLINE
800.848.5533 NOC@OAKGOV.COM
OAKGOV.COM/HEALTH



@PUBLICHEALTHOC

The Oakland County Health Division will not deny participation in its programs based on race, sex, religion, national origin, age or disability. State and federal eligibility requirements apply for certain programs.