



HAZARDOUS INFORMATION TRAINING SHEET (HITS)

HITS: 20-0001

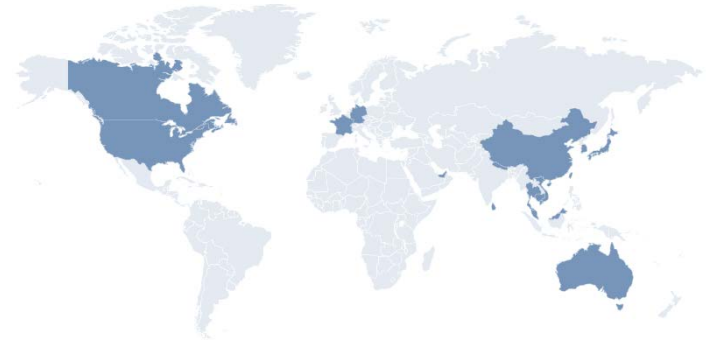
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Novel Coronavirus, 2019-nCoV

Scope: This HITS provides information on the evolving Coronavirus, 2019-nCoV. As of this date, there is limited information regarding the subject coronavirus, 2019-nCoV; it originated in or near Wuhan, China; it can be transmitted between people; it is primarily a respiratory virus; and has produced limited fatalities. This is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation and DHS/FPS will provide updated information as it becomes available, in addition to updated guidance

What is a Coronavirus.

[2019 Novel Coronavirus](#) (2019-nCoV) is a virus (more specifically, a coronavirus) identified as the cause of an outbreak of respiratory illness first detected in Wuhan, China. Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some causing illness in people and others that circulate among animals, including camels, cats and bats. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can evolve and infect people and then spread between people such as has been seen with MERS and SARS. Chinese health officials have reported hundreds of infections with 2019-nCoV in China, including outside of the point of origin. Infections with 2019-nCoV also are being reported in a growing number of countries internationally, including the United States, where the first and second 2019-nCoV infections were reported on January 21 and January 24, 2020, respectively, both in travelers returning from Wuhan.

**How is a Coronavirus Spread?**

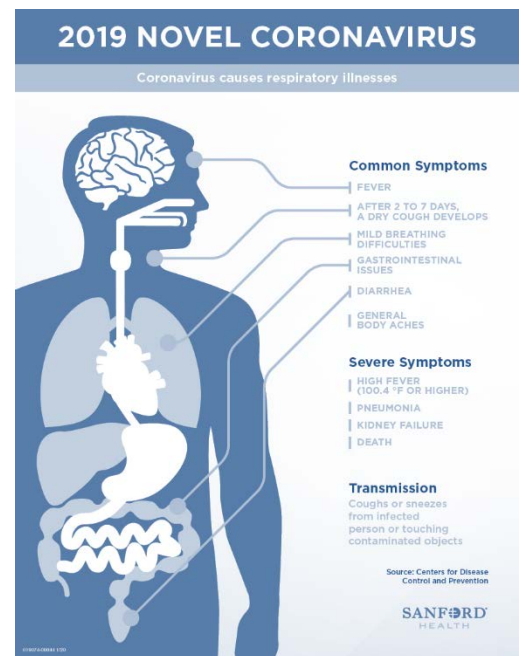
When person-to-person spread has occurred with MERS and SARS, it is thought to have happened via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes, like how influenza and other respiratory pathogens spread.

Signs and Symptoms.

Patients with confirmed 2019-nCoV infection have reportedly had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of:

- fever
- cough
- shortness of breath

CDC believes at this time that symptoms of 2019-nCoV may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 after exposure. This is based on what has been seen previously as the incubation period of [MERS](#) viruses.





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The latest situation summary updates are available on CDC's web page [2019 Novel Coronavirus, Wuhan, China](#).

Workforce Protection.

The following precautions apply when interacting with known or suspected people who have traveled from/ through Wuhan, China or have had close contact with a patient.

- Personnel in close contact (within 6 feet) of a person who has not been medically screened - for longer than just passing by- wear disposable gloves, a properly fitted N95 respirator, and avoid physical contact when possible unless the person is wearing a surgical mask.
- If a person is symptomatic (fever, coughing, etc.) and the DHS member must come within 6 feet- for longer than just passing by- should wear disposable gloves, protective eyewear, a properly fitted N95 respirator and disposable coverall or lab coat. Symptomatic persons will wear surgical masks.
- Personnel in close contact, as above, with people who have been medically cleared (no symptoms) or travelers/ migrants of other origin wear disposable gloves and avoid physical contact when possible.
- Coronaviruses are relatively resistant to the environment and can survive several days on hard surfaces.
- Hard surfaces in a work area that may be contaminated with 2019-nCoV should be regularly decontaminated
 - Effective disinfectants include either a bleach solution or a broad-spectrum disinfectant from the [EPA Disinfectants and Sterilizers list](#).
- Personnel should perform hand hygiene using alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) before and after all contact with known or suspected individuals, contact with potentially infectious material, and before putting on and upon removal of PPE, including gloves. Hand hygiene in healthcare settings also can be performed by washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If hands are visibly soiled, use soap and water before returning to ABHR.

Workforce Readiness.

- All Regional WMD Coordinators should verify that all FPS Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs) are within policy requirements for respirator medical clearance and respirator fit testing.
- All FPS LEOs should examine their issued Infection Control Personal Protection Kits (ICPPK).
- All FPS LEOs should verify they have in their possession three (3), N-95 respirators (model 8210)
 - Any damaged, or missing equipment or N95s should be reported to their Regional WMD Coordinator who will arrange for replacement.

For further information or dissemination, contact: FPS Training and Professional Development, Counter Terrorism and Specialized Training Branch at 703-639-1100 or CSTB@fps.dhs.gov, prepared by 0133.

References

Center for Disease Prevention, 2019. Confirmed 2019-nCoV Cases Globally [digital image]. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/locations-confirmed-cases.html#map>

Stanford Health, 2019. Sign and symptoms of 2019-nCoV [digital image]. Retrieved from <https://news.stanfordhealth.org/news/coronavirus/>

(U)For further information contact your local FPS Inspector, Regional FPS WMD Coordinator, or the FPS CSB
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