# Coronavirus: What you need to know



## 1. What is the 2019 Novel Coronavirus or 2019-nCoV?

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that are common in many species of animals. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can be spread to humans such as the MERS and SARS viruses. 2019 Novel Coronavirus or 2019-nCoV, is a new virus first detected in Wuhan, China in January 2020 causing an outbreak of respiratory illness.

## 2. What is the source of 2019 Novel Coronavirus?

Early on, many patients in Wuhan, China reportedly had a link to a seafood and animal market, suggesting the virus may have originated from an animal source.

## 3. How does the virus spread?

It is thought that the virus originated from animal-to-person spread but a growing amount of people have been infected who have not been exposed to animal markets, indicating person-to-person spread. It is unclear how easily the virus spreads.

## 4. Symptoms of the virus?

Infection symptoms can range from mild to severely ill. Symptoms can include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

The CDC believes the onset of symptoms can range from 2 to 14 days after exposure.

## 5. Is there a vaccine?

Currently, there no vaccine to protect against the virus.

## 6. How can I protect myself from the virus?

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If not able to wash hands, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

#### 7. What should I do if I have come in contact with someone who has 2019-nCoV?

- Monitor your health starting the day you had contact with the person and continue to do so for 14 days. Watch these signs and symptoms:
  - o Fever- Take temperature twice daily
  - Coughing
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Other symptoms: chills, body aches, sore throat, headache, diarrhea, nausea/vomiting and runny nose
- If you develop a fever or any of these symptoms, call your healthcare provider right away and make sure to inform them you have had close contact with someone who has confirmed 2019-nCoV so they can take precautions to keep other people from being infected.

Source: 2019 Novel Coronavirus, Wuhan, China. CDC. January 2020. URL: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html