A novel Coronavirus outbreak was discovered in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China in December 2019. Chinese authorities have determined that this is a new coronavirus and identify it as 2019-nCoV. There are hundreds of confirmed cases in China with new cases being discovered in other countries.

The first case in the US was discovered in Washington state on January 21, 2020. Healthcare workers notified the CDC after observing 2019-nCoV-like symptoms in a Wuhan traveler. The CDC tested samples from the patient and confirmed 2019-nCoV.

**What is a Coronavirus?**

According to the World Health Organization, "Coronaviruses (CoV) are a large family of viruses that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV)."

**What are the symptoms?**

The virus causes flu-like symptoms such as fever, cough, shortness of breath and breathing difficulties. However, the disease can progress to become more severe; infection can cause pneumonia, severe acute respiratory syndrome, kidney failure and death.

Persons with these symptoms who have traveled to Wuhan or have had contact with someone who has traveled to Wuhan are advised to seek out their healthcare provider for more information. If you have not traveled to an affected area or have not had contact with someone from an affected area in the last fourteen days, you are unlikely to have 2019-nCoV infection.

Healthcare workers may use the criteria below to evaluate patients who may have contracted the 2019-n-CoV infection. Note that this may change as more information becomes available.

<table>
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<th>Clinical Features</th>
<th>Epidemiologic Risk</th>
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| Fever and symptoms of lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough, difficulty breathing) | And in the last 14 days before symptom onset:  
• A history of travel from Wuhan City, China, OR  
• Close contact with a person under investigation for 2019-nCoV while that person was ill. |
| Fever or symptoms of lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough, difficulty breathing) | And in the last 14 days, close contact with an ill, laboratory-confirmed 2019-nCoV patient. |

Source: CDC 2019 Novel Coronavirus - Interim Guidance for Healthcare Professionals

**What you can do**

- Frequently clean hands by using soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub.
- Cover mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue when coughing or sneezing – throw tissue away immediately and wash hands.
- Avoid close contact with anyone who has a fever and cough.
- If you have fever, cough, and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early and share previous travel history with your healthcare provider.

**Is there a treatment?**

There is no vaccine or specific treatment for 2019-n-CoV at this time. Clinical criteria are based on what is known about other coronaviruses such as MERS-CoV and SARS-CoV.

**What other information is available?**

- The CDC developed the Reverse Transcription-Polymerase Chain Reaction (rRT-PCR) test that diagnoses 2019-nCoV and is only available at CDC. CDC will share these tests with domestic and international partners through its [International Reagent Resource](https://www.cdc.gov/Coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/reagent-resource.html).
- Passenger screening is currently underway at major international airports including LAX and SFO.

**Resources**

- USC Student Health  
- CDC Corona Virus  
- WHO Corona Virus  
- HAN Health Alert Network 01/17/2020