

Coronavirus



- ❖ **Coronaviruses (CoV)** are a large family of viruses that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as :
 - (MERS-CoV) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV).
- ❖ **A novel coronavirus (nCoV)** is a new strain that has not been previously identified in humans.
- ❖ Coronaviruses are **zoonotic**, Several known coronaviruses are circulating in animals that have not yet infected humans.
- ❖ **Common signs of infection** include respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, shortness of breath and breathing difficulties. In more severe cases, infection can cause pneumonia, severe acute

respiratory syndrome, kidney failure and even death.

Novel corona virus Case Definition

Suspect case:

A - Patients with severe acute respiratory infection (fever, cough, and requiring admission to hospital), AND with no other etiology that fully explains the clinical presentation AND at least one of the following:

1. A history of travel to or residence in the city of Wuhan, Hubei Province, China in the 14 days prior to symptom onset, or
2. • Patient is a health care worker who has been working in an environment where severe acute respiratory infections of unknown etiology are being cared for.

B. Patients with any acute respiratory illness AND at least one of the following:

- 1- Close contact with a confirmed or probable case of 2019-nCoV in the 14 days prior to illness onset, or
- 2- Visiting or working in a live animal market in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China in the 14 days prior to symptom onset, or

3- Worked or attended a health care facility in the 14 days prior to onset of symptoms where patients with hospital-associated 2019-nCoV infections have been reported.

Probable case:

A suspect case for whom testing for 2019- nCoV is inconclusive or for whom testing was positive on a pan-coronavirus assay.

Confirmed case:

A person with laboratory confirmation of 2019-nCoV infection, irrespective of clinical signs and symptoms.

➤ **Mode of transmission:** it's a zoonotic disease

- Direct contact with infected animal
- Airborne droplet (human to human)

➤ **Diagnosis:** RT-PCR

➤ **Treatment:** No specific ARV treatment

➤ **Case fatality rate :**

- 2019-nCoV 3 %
- MERS-CoV CFR 34.4%
- SARS-CoV CFR 9.5 %
- H1N1 CFR 0.02-0.4 %

➤ **Prevention**

How to protect yourself

- Currently no vaccines available to protect you against human coronavirus infection.
- You may be able to reduce your risk of infection by doing the following:
 - **Wash your hands** often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
 - **Avoid touching** your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
 - **Avoid close contact** with people who are sick

How to protect others :

If you have cold-like symptoms, you can help protect others by doing the following:

- stay home while you are sick
- avoid close contact with others
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands
- clean and disinfect objects and surfaces

❖ Recommendation for PHC:

The basic principles of Infection prevention and control (IPC) and standard precautions should be applied in all health care facilities, including primary care. For 2019-nCoV infection, the following measures should be adopted:

- Triage and early recognition of suspected cases
- Emphasis on hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene and medical masks to be used by patients with respiratory symptoms;
- Appropriate use of contact and droplet precautions for all suspected cases;
- Prioritization of care of symptomatic patients;
- When symptomatic patients are required to wait, ensure they have a separate waiting area;
- Educate patients and families about the early recognition of symptoms, basic precautions to be used and which health care facility they should refer to.

Note: All suspected cases should be referred to MOH Hospitals after arrangement and informing of AHO & FDCO

With my best wishes for everyone's health and wellness

Dr Khaled Rai

FDCO – WB