Update and Interim Guidance for Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) today confirmed the second infection with 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in the United States has been detected in Illinois. The patient recently returned from Wuhan, China. The patient returned to the U.S. from Wuhan on January 13, 2020, and called a health care provider after experiencing symptoms a few days later. The patient was admitted to a hospital, where infection control measures were taken to reduce the risk of transmission to other individuals. The patient remains hospitalized in an isolation room in stable condition and is doing well.

While CDC considers this a serious public health threat, based on current information, the immediate health risk from 2019-nCoV to the general American public is considered low at this time.

CDC is implementing public health entry screening at Atlanta (ATL), Chicago (ORD), Los Angeles (LAX), New York (JF), and San Francisco (SFO) airports.

At this time, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance on evaluating and reporting a person under investigation (PUI) for 2019-nCoV remains unchanged. The Oregon Health Authority has provided some additional documentation for healthcare providers for testing, specimen collection, and screening. For the full guidance from the CDC, please see the resources for the healthcare providers section of this report.

Healthcare providers should immediately notify Jackson County Public Health of any suspect cases of 2019-nCoV. Please report directly by calling 541-774-8045 during business hours, and after-hours call 541-618-4651.

Testing: We recommend that you ask people presenting with fever along with cough or dyspnea about travel to or from Wuhan within the preceding 14 days. Such patients should be isolated immediately, preferably in a negative-pressure room, and standard, contact, and airborne precautions observed along with eye protection. If the patient does not need to be admitted, see CDC guidance for home care.

Testing for the virus is currently available only at CDC. To arrange for testing of an Oregon patient, contact Jackson County Public Health.

Specimen collection: All specimens should be stored at 2–8°F and shipped on an ice pack. Label each specimen container with the patient’s ID number (e.g., medical record number).
number), unique specimen ID (e.g., laboratory requisition number), specimen type (e.g., serum) and the date the sample was collected.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient scenario</th>
<th>Intervention</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patient who plans to travel to China</td>
<td>Review <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/traveler-information.html">CDC travel alert</a> with the patient.</td>
<td>Travelers to Wuhan, <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/travel/vacations/china.html">China</a>, should avoid contact with sick people, animals (alive or dead), and animal markets.</td>
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<td>Patient who is well and has recently traveled to Wuhan City, China or has had contact with a confirmed case or a case under investigation</td>
<td>Counsel the patient to watch for symptoms of fever, cough, or difficulty breathing within 14 days of being in Wuhan, or within 14 days of last contact with the ill person.</td>
<td>Patients who develop symptoms should call ahead to their usual source of healthcare for advice. If a patient needs evaluation, clinic staff should consult with infection control and plan a clinic entry and evaluation that minimizes exposure of others. If the patient is not sick enough to need evaluation, see <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/cases-and-contacts.html">CDC guidance for home care</a> and contact local public health during daytime hours regarding the need for testing.</td>
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<td>Patient who has fever AND symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (cough, difficulty breathing) AND History of travel to Wuhan City OR close contact to a symptomatic case in the last 14 days.</td>
<td>Evaluate under standard, contact and airborne precautions with eye protection. Contact the local health department where the patient resides or is staying.</td>
<td>Plan on collecting specimens for testing at CDC after OHA approval. ● Upper and lower respiratory specimens, and serum ● If possible collect urine and stool. If patient does not need to be admitted, see <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/cases-and-contacts.html">CDC guidance for home care</a>.</td>
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<td>Patient who has fever OR symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (cough, difficulty breathing) AND Close contact with a lab-confirmed case in the last 14 days.</td>
<td>Evaluate under standard, contact, and airborne precautions with eye protection. Contact the local health department where the patient resides or is staying.</td>
<td>Plan on collecting specimens for testing at CDC after OHA approval. ● Upper and lower respiratory specimens, and serum ● If possible collect urine and stool. If patient does not need to be admitted, see <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/cases-and-contacts.html">CDC guidance for home care</a>.</td>
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Resources for Healthcare Providers

- Interim Guidance for Healthcare Professionals:
- Interim Guidelines for Collection, Handling, and Testing Clinical Specimens from Patients Under Investigations for 2019-nCoV):
- Interim Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients Under Investigation for 2019-nCoV):
- 2019 Novel Coronavirus, Wuhan, China home page:
- Oregon Health Authority Novel Coronavirus Updates:

The mission of Jackson County Health and Human Services is to plan, coordinate and provide public services that protect and promote the health and well-being of county residents.