

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS

Q: What is the Coronavirus?

A: The 2019 Novel Coronavirus, or 2019-nCoV, is a new respiratory virus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China.

Q: What is the source of 2019-nCoV?

A: Public health officials and partners are working hard to identify the source of the 2019-nCoV. Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some causing illness in people and others that circulate among animals, including camels, cats and bats. Analysis of the genetic tree of this virus is ongoing to know the specific source of the virus.

Q: How does the virus spread?

A: This virus probably originally emerged from an animal source but now seems to be spreading from person-to-person. It's important to note that person-to-person spread can happen on a continuum. Some viruses are highly contagious (like measles), while other viruses are less so. Currently, it's unclear how easily or sustainably this virus is spreading between people.

Q: How can I help protect myself?

A: There is currently no vaccine to prevent 2019-nCoV infection. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including:

Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Q: What are the symptoms of 2019-nCoV?

A: The symptoms include runny nose, headache, cough, sore throat, fever and diarrhea

Q: What should I do if I had close contact with someone who has 2019-nCoV?

A: There is information for people who have had close contact with a person confirmed to have, or being evaluated for, 2019-nCoV infection available online.

Q: What should I do if I say if a guest asks me about 2019-nCoV?

A: To date, there have been no reported cases of the Novel Coronavirus in South Africa. South Africa's health department is working with government officials at the country's entry points. Sea ports and airports (both OR Tambo and Cape Town International Airports – which are the only ports of entry with direct flights from Asia). They are screening for the virus, and have increased surveillance of travelers from Asia, especially China. In addition, provinces have activated outbreak response teams, and are on high alert. One&Only Cape Town will continue to monitor the latest updates from Government and Border Control. One&Only Cape Town welcomes all guests of all nationalities.