

# 2019 Novel Coronavirus Fact Sheet

## What is a Coronavirus (CoV)?

- ⇒ A virus that causes illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).
- ⇒ Coronaviruses are zoonotic, meaning they are transmitted between animals and people.

## What is a novel Coronavirus (nCoV)?

- ⇒ A novel CoV is a new strain of coronavirus that has not been previously identified in humans.
- ⇒ A novel CoV (nCoV) was recently identified in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China in late December 2019 (2019-nCoV).
- ⇒ This nCoV has since been identified outside of China, in a growing number of countries internationally, including the United States.
- ⇒ It is possible that more cases of 2019-nCoV will be identified in the future.

## How is nCoV transmitted?

- ⇒ Initially, patients with the 2019-nCoV had links to a large seafood and live animal market, suggesting animal - to person spread.
- ⇒ A growing number of patients have reported not to have had any exposure to animal markets, suggesting this coronavirus is spreading the same way other cold-causing viruses do: through people coughing and sneezing, by touching an infected person's hands or face, or by touching things that infected people have touched.

## What are the symptoms of nCoV?

- ⇒ Common signs 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.

## Is there a treatment for nCoV?

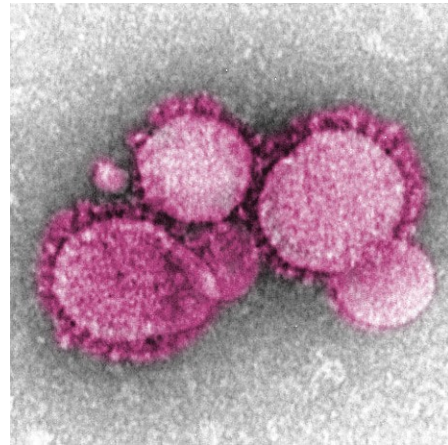
- ⇒ NO specific treatment is available
- ⇒ Most people will recover on their own with rest and drinking lots of fluid
- ⇒ Pain and fever medication, room humidifier and/or hot showers can alleviate the symptoms

## What should I do if I (or someone I know) traveled to Wuhan, China or other countries reporting nCoV?

- ⇒ Seek medical care right away. Before you go to the doctor's office or emergency room, call ahead and tell them about your recent travel and your symptoms.
- ⇒ Avoid contact with others.
- ⇒ Do not travel while sick.
- ⇒ Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing.
- ⇒ Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.

## What can I do to protect myself?

- ⇒ Good [hand washing practices](#)
- ⇒ [respiratory hygiene](#)
- ⇒ [safe food practices](#), and
- ⇒ avoiding close contact with anyone showing symptoms of respiratory illness such as coughing and sneezing are the best ways to prevent coronavirus infection.



Source: CDC

For more information on nCoV go to:

[CDC webpage](#)

[WHO webpage](#)

Contact the Cattaraugus County  
Health Department

716-701-3422



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