

From: Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thu, 20 Feb 2020 23:28:04 +0000
To: Achenbach, Joel
Subject: RE: quick question: when does an epidemic become a "pandemic" officially?

It is impossible to predict at this point if the current outbreak will progress to a true pandemic. The future of this outbreak and whether it will progress to a pandemic will be determined by two factors: 1) the degree to which China controls infections in China, which will ultimately impact how many infections leak out to other countries in the world. 2) The success or not of other countries that have received travel-related cases from China in preventing the development of sustained transmission of infections in their own country. If these other countries are successful in containing the transmissions, then a pandemic will be avoided. If a large number of countries are unsuccessful in preventing sustained multi-generation transmissions, then we could witness the next pandemic.

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From: Achenbach, Joel <Joel.Achenbach@washpost.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2020 6:11 PM
To: Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E] (b) (6)>
Subject: RE: quick question: when does an epidemic become a "pandemic" officially?

Oh....and...the big question: How likely is it that covid-19 will become a pandemic? Would love an on-the-record assessment. Thanks...joel

From: Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E] (b) (6)>
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2020 6:06 PM
To: Achenbach, Joel <Joel.Achenbach@washpost.com>
Subject: RE: quick question: when does an epidemic become a "pandemic" officially?