

Email subject: LINKS Community News - Novel Coronavirus, a priority for the NCD community too!

February 10, 2020

Dear Colleague,

In the last few weeks, the novel coronavirus (2019 nCoV) has become the subject of global attention and concern. As the coronavirus continues to spread, the world is learning more about what precautions we can take to protect ourselves and each other.

As members of the non-communicable disease (NCD) prevention and treatment community, we too have an important role to play in controlling the 2019 nCoV epidemic. Patients living with chronic diseases, including people living with hypertension and other NCDs, are particularly vulnerable to poor health outcomes during the outbreak, whether due to increased risk of complications from 2019 nCoV, or simply due to interrupted chronic disease care. Resolve to Save Lives has developed guidance for both health care providers and chronic disease patients to help minimize exposure to coronavirus while ensuring continuity of care. These documents can be posted in your health facilities or distributed within your networks.

For additional information, we encourage you to monitor updates from the <u>Prevent Epidemics</u> team at Resolve to Save Lives, the <u>World Health Organization</u>, and US <u>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</u>. You may also want to read the <u>WHO's advice for the public</u> for additional resources, many of which are available for download.

All the best,

Lindsay

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