



December 31, 2019

The World Health Organization China Country Office is informed of a number of cases of pneumonia of unknown etiology (unknown cause) detected in Wuhan, Hubei Province. All cases are connected to the Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market in Wuhan.

Early 2020



January 2, 2020

The World Health Organization activates its incident management system across the three levels of WHO (country office, regional office, and headquarters).



January 5, 2020

Chinese public health officials share the genetic sequence of the unknown pneumonia virus (Wuhan-Hu-1) through an online database.



January 5, 2020

CDC's National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD) activates a Center Level Response for novel pneumonia of unknown etiology.



January 7, 2020

Chinese authorities identify and isolate a novel coronavirus as the causative agent of the outbreak.



January 7, 2020

CDC establishes a 2019-nCoV Incident Management Structure to guide the response. It follows previously established MERS-CoV preparedness plans for developing tests and managing cases.



January 10, 2020

CDC publishes information about the novel coronavirus on its website.



January 13, 2020

The Thailand Ministry of Public Health confirms the first imported case of lab-confirmed novel coronavirus from China.