Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)
Situation Report – 64

Data as reported by national authorities by 10:00 CET 24 March 2020

HIGHLIGHTS

- Four new countries/territories/areas from the South-East Asia Region [1], and Region of the Americas [3] have reported cases of COVID-19.

- WHO has delivered a new shipment of emergency medical supplies to the Islamic Republic of Iran as part of COVID-19 response measures. Details can be found on the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean here.

- The WHO WhatsApp Health Alert has now attracted 10 million users since launching Friday, and the COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund has raised more than US$70 million, in just 10 days. The media briefing can be found here.

- WHO and FIFA launched a joint campaign to equip the football community to tackle COVID-19. This awareness campaign calls on all people around the world to follow the five key steps to stop the spread of the disease. More information can be found here.

- WHO and its partners are constantly working to strengthen the chains of essential COVID-19 supplies. As global demand rises, WHO and its partners aim to ensure assistance to areas most in need. More information can be found in *Subject in Focus.*

SITUATION IN NUMBERS
total (new) cases in last 24 hours

Globally
372 757 confirmed (39 827)
16 231 deaths (1722)

Western Pacific Region
96 580 confirmed (943)
3502 deaths (29)

European Region
195 511 confirmed (24 087)
10 189 deaths (1447)

South-East Asia Region
1990 confirmed (214)
65 deaths (7)

Eastern Mediterranean Region
27 215 confirmed (1840)
1877 deaths (136)

Region of the Americas
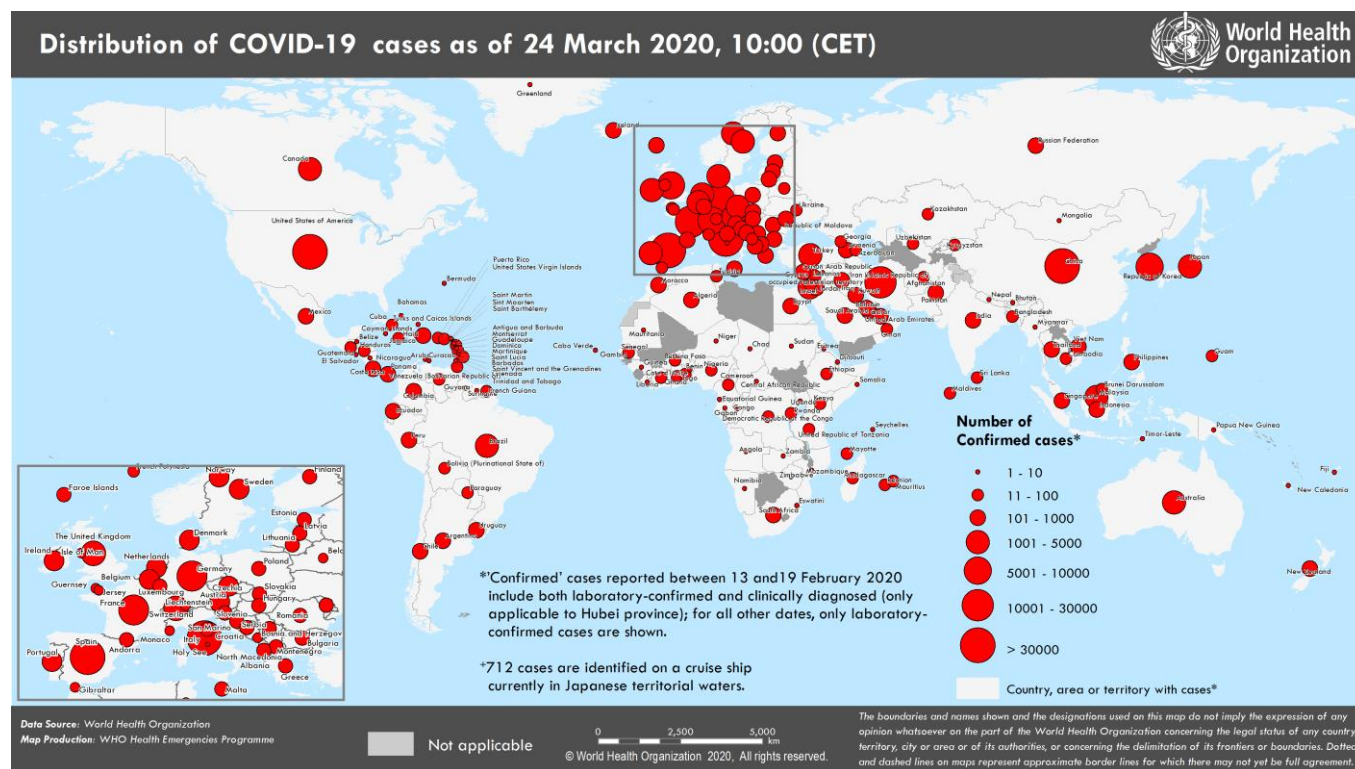49 444 confirmed (12 428)
565 deaths (100)

African Region
1305 confirmed (315)
26 deaths (3)

WHO RISK ASSESSMENT
Global Level   Very High

Figure 1. Countries, territories or areas with reported confirmed cases of COVID-19, 24 March 2020

Distribution of COVID-19 cases as of 24 March 2020, 10:00 (CET)

Number of Confirmed cases*
- 1 - 10
- 11 - 100
- 101 - 1000
- 1001 - 5000
- 5001 - 10000
- 10001 - 30000
- > 30000

Country, area or territory with cases*

*'Confirmed' cases reported between 13 and19 February 2020 include both laboratory-confirmed and clinically diagnosed (only applicable to Hubei province); for all other dates, only laboratory-confirmed cases are shown.

+712 cases are identified on a cruise ship currently in Japanese territorial waters.

Not applicable

Data Source: World Health Organization
Map Production: WHO Health Emergencies Programme

0   2,500   5,000
km

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The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

SUBJECT IN FOCUS: STRENGTHENING SUPPLY CHAINS TO CREATE GREATEST IMPACT

WHO and the World Food Programme (WFP) are exploring ways to work with the Pandemic Supply Chain Network (PSCN) and Logistical Emergency Teams (L.E.T.) to ensure that logistical assets are in place to support the increasing global demand for COVID-19 supplies. This is to ensure that supplies are allocated effectively and equitably in the places where they are needed the most.

WHO is also working with the World Bank to develop demand modeling from a country-based perspective. This will allow the sharing and support of technical guidance and allocation mechanisms and ensure that critical supplies are distributed with most impact.

The planning effort will support the mapping of scenarios as well as what is needed for stocks and procurement. With the engagement of the World Bank, the PSCN seeks to bring together the overview of the market's capability to provide and distribute the necessary supplies, WHO demand forecasting and the necessary financial and political support to fight COVID-19.

Representatives from both WFP and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) have joined the WHO team at HQ to establish the Supply Chain Coordination Cell (SCCC). The objectives of the SCCC are to:

- Establish a COVID-19 supply chain working group to deepen inter-agency collaboration with the aim of minimizing disruptions to current humanitarian operations, while increasing efficiency and coherence of the COVID-19 response.
- Provide a centralized voice through the collection and dissemination of information to the UN Crisis Management Team (UNCMT), other relevant forums, as well as the wider humanitarian community, to support strategic guidance, operational decision-making, and overall monitoring.
- Foster the creation of regional and country level coordination mechanisms aimed at implementing efforts, while maintaining the overall coordination of the response.
- Create a smaller joint procurement group of medical equipment buying agencies.

WHO and its partners are constantly working to strengthen the chains of essential COVID-19 supplies. As global demand rises, WHO and its partners aim to ensure that those areas most at need receive as much assistance as much as possible.

SURVEILLANCE

Table 1. Countries, territories or areas with reported laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths. Data as of 24 March 2020[*]

Reporting Country/ Territory/Area[†]	Total confirmed [‡] cases	Total confirmed new cases	Total deaths	Total new deaths	Transmission classification[§]	Days since last reported case
Western Pacific Region						
China	81747	146	3283	7	Local transmission	0
Republic of Korea	9037	76	120	9	Local transmission	0
Australia	1709	313	7	0	Local transmission	0
Malaysia	1518	212	14	4	Local transmission	0
Japan	1128	39	42	1	Local transmission	0
Singapore	507	52	2	0	Local transmission	0
Philippines	462	82	33	8	Local transmission	0
Viet Nam	123	10	0	0	Local transmission	0
New Zealand	102	0	0	0	Local transmission	1
Brunei Darussalam	91	3	0	0	Local transmission	0
Cambodia	87	3	0	0	Local transmission	0
Mongolia	10	0	0	0	Imported cases only	2
Fiji	3	1	0	0	Local transmission	0
Papua New Guinea	1	0	0	0	Imported cases only	3
Territories[**]						
Guam	29	2	1	0	Local transmission	0
French Polynesia	18	1	0	0	Local transmission	0
New Caledonia	8	3	0	0	Imported cases only	0
European Region						
Italy	63927	4789	6077	601	Local transmission	0
Spain	33089	4517	2182	462	Local transmission	0
Germany	29212	4438	126	32	Local transmission	0
France	19615	3794	860	186	Local transmission	0
Switzerland	8015	1044	66	6	Local transmission	0
The United Kingdom	6654	967	335	54	Local transmission	0
Netherlands	4749	545	213	34	Local transmission	0
Austria	4486	855	25	9	Local transmission	0
Belgium	3743	342	88	13	Local transmission	0
Norway	2371	239	8	1	Local transmission	0
Portugal	2060	460	23	9	Local transmission	0
Sweden	2016	110	25	4	Local transmission	0
Turkey	1529	293	37	7	Local transmission	0
Denmark	1460	65	24	11	Local transmission	0
Israel	1238	167	1	0	Local transmission	0
Czechia	1236	71	1	0	Local transmission	0
Ireland	1125	219	6	2	Local transmission	0
Luxembourg	875	77	8	0	Local transmission	0
Poland	749	115	8	1	Local transmission	0
Finland	700	74	1	0	Local transmission	0
Greece	695	71	17	2	Local transmission	0
Iceland	588	20	2	1	Local transmission	0
Romania	576	143	7	5	Local transmission	0
Slovenia	442	28	1	0	Local transmission	0
Russian Federation	438	0	0	0	Local transmission	1
Estonia	352	26	0	0	Local transmission	0
Croatia	306	71	0	0	Local transmission	0

Serbia	249	61	2	2	Local transmission	0
Armenia	235	45	0	0	Local transmission	0
Bulgaria	201	16	3	0	Local transmission	0
Slovakia	191	6	0	0	Local transmission	0
Hungary	187	20	8	1	Local transmission	0
San Marino	187	36	20	0	Local transmission	0
Latvia	180	41	0	0	Local transmission	0
Lithuania	179	36	1	0	Local transmission	0
Andorra	164	51	1	1	Local transmission	0
North Macedonia	136	22	2	1	Local transmission	0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	131	6	1	0	Local transmission	0
Albania	123	34	4	2	Local transmission	0
Cyprus	116	21	0	0	Local transmission	0
Republic of Moldova	109	15	1	0	Local transmission	0
Malta	107	17	0	0	Local transmission	0
Ukraine	84	37	3	0	Local transmission	0
Belarus	81	5	0	0	Local transmission	0
Azerbaijan	72	7	1	0	Local transmission	0
Georgia	67	13	0	0	Local transmission	0
Kazakhstan	63	3	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Liechtenstein	46	0	0	0	Imported cases only	1
Uzbekistan	46	0	0	0	Local transmission	1
Monaco	23	0	0	0	Local transmission	1
Montenegro	22	1	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Kyrgyzstan	16	2	0	0	Local transmission	0
Holy See	1	0	0	0	Under investigation	17
Territories**						
Faroe Islands	118	3	0	0	Local transmission	0
Kosovo[1]	61	30	1	0	Local transmission	0
Guernsey	20	3	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Jersey	18	3	0	0	Local transmission	0
Gibraltar	15	0	0	0	Under investigation	1
Isle of Man	13	11	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Greenland	4	2	0	0	Under investigation	0
South-East Asia Region						
Thailand	827	106	4	3	Local transmission	0
Indonesia	579	65	49	1	Local transmission	0
India	434	19	9	2	Local transmission	0
Sri Lanka	97	15	0	0	Local transmission	0
Bangladesh	33	6	3	1	Local transmission	0
Maldives	13	0	0	0	Local transmission	8
Bhutan	2	0	0	0	Imported cases only	4
Myanmar	2	2	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Nepal	2	1	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Timor-Leste	1	0	0	0	Imported cases only	3
Eastern Mediterranean Region						
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	23049	1411	1812	127	Local transmission	0
Pakistan	887	103	6	1	Local transmission	0
Saudi Arabia	562	51	0	0	Local transmission	0
Qatar	501	7	0	0	Local transmission	0
Bahrain	377	40	2	0	Local transmission	0
Egypt	366	39	19	5	Local transmission	0

Lebanon	267	19	4	0	Local transmission	0
Iraq	266	33	23	3	Local transmission	0
United Arab Emirates	198	45	2	0	Local transmission	0
Kuwait	191	2	0	0	Local transmission	0
Morocco	143	28	4	0	Local transmission	0
Jordan	127	15	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Tunisia	89	14	3	0	Local transmission	0
Oman	84	29	0	0	Local transmission	0
Afghanistan	42	2	1	0	Imported cases only	0
Djibouti	3	2	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Sudan	2	0	1	0	Imported cases only	2
Somalia	1	0	0	0	Imported cases only	7
Syrian Arab Republic	1	0	0	0	Imported cases only	1
Territories[**]						
occupied Palestinian territory	59	0	0	0	Local transmission	1
Region of the Americas						
United States of America	42164	10591	471	69	Local transmission	0
Brazil	1546	642	25	14	Local transmission	0
Canada	1432	48	20	1	Local transmission	0
Ecuador	790	258	15	8	Local transmission	0
Chile	746	114	1	0	Local transmission	0
Peru	395	77	2	0	Local transmission	0
Mexico	370	119	4	2	Local transmission	0
Panama	345	100	6	3	Local transmission	0
Colombia	277	81	3	1	Local transmission	0
Argentina	266	41	4	0	Local transmission	0
Dominican Republic	245	173	3	1	Local transmission	0
Uruguay	162	27	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Costa Rica	158	41	2	0	Local transmission	0
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	70	0	0	0	Local transmission	1
Trinidad and Tobago	51	1	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Cuba	40	24	1	0	Imported cases only	0
Honduras	30	4	0	0	Local transmission	0
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	27	3	0	0	Local transmission	0
Paraguay	22	0	1	0	Local transmission	1
Guatemala	20	2	1	0	Local transmission	0
Jamaica	19	0	1	0	Local transmission	1
Barbados	17	12	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Haiti	6	4	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Guyana	5	0	1	0	Local transmission	5
Bahamas	4	0	0	0	Local transmission	3
El Salvador	3	2	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Saint Lucia	3	1	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Nicaragua	2	0	0	0	Imported cases only	2
Suriname	2	0	0	0	Imported cases only	3
Antigua and Barbuda	1	0	0	0	Imported cases only	10
Belize	1	1	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Dominica	1	1	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Grenada	1	0	0	0	Imported cases only	1
Saint Vincent and the	1	0	0	0	Imported cases only	11

Grenadines						
Territories[**]						
Guadeloupe	62	6	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Martinique	53	21	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Puerto Rico	31	8	2	1	Imported cases only	0
			0	0	Local transmission	0

Niger	2	1	0	0	Imported cases only	0
Zimbabwe	2	0	1	1	Imported cases only	2
Eritrea	1	0	0	0	Imported cases only	2
Gambia	1	0	0	0	Imported cases only	6
Mozambique	1	0	0	0	Imported cases only	1

Figure 2. Epidemic curve of confirmed COVID-19, by date of report and WHO region through 24 March 2020
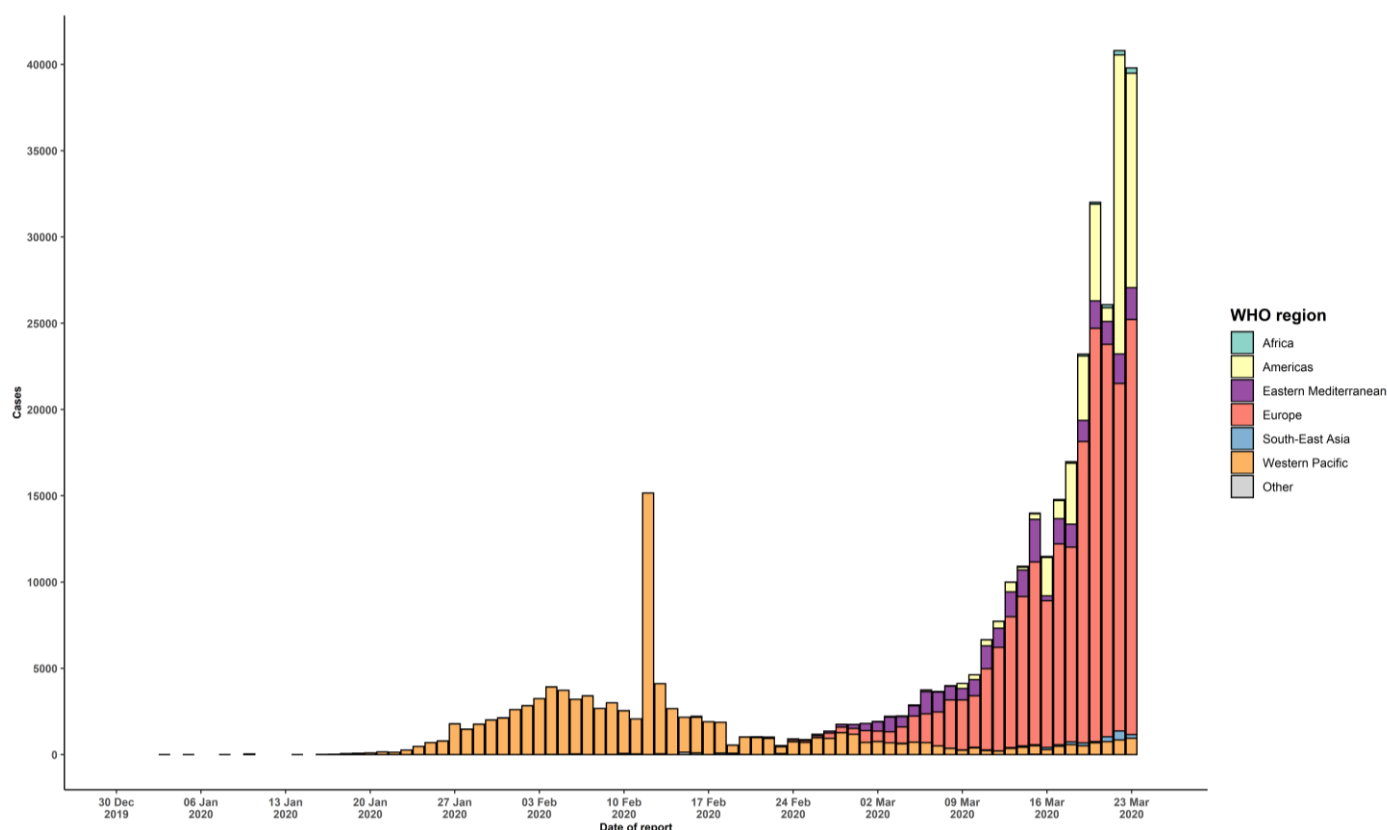
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

WHO's strategic objectives for this response are to:

- Interrupt human-to-human transmission including reducing secondary infections among close contacts and health care workers, preventing transmission amplification events, and preventing further international spread*;
- Identify, isolate and care for patients early, including providing optimized care for infected patients;
- Identify and reduce transmission from the animal source;
- Address crucial unknowns regarding clinical severity, extent of transmission and infection, treatment options, and accelerate the development of diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines;
- Communicate critical risk and event information to all communities and counter misinformation;
- Minimize social and economic impact through multisectoral partnerships.

*This can be achieved through a combination of public health measures, such as rapid identification, diagnosis and management of the cases, identification and follow up of the contacts, infection prevention and control in health care settings, implementation of health measures for travelers, awareness-raising in the population and risk communication.

PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

To view all technical guidance documents regarding COVID-19, please go to this webpage.

WHO has developed interim guidance for laboratory diagnosis, advice on the use of masks during home care and in health care settings in the context of the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) outbreak, clinical management, infection prevention and control in health care settings, home care for patients with suspected novel coronavirus, risk communication and community engagement and Global Surveillance for human infection with novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV).

WHO is working closely with International Air Transport Association (IATA) and have jointly developed a guidance document to provide advice to cabin crew and airport workers, based on country queries. The guidance can be found on the IATA webpage.

WHO has been in regular and direct contact with Member States where cases have been reported. WHO is also informing other countries about the situation and providing support as requested.

WHO is working with its networks of researchers and other experts to coordinate global work on surveillance, epidemiology, mathematical modelling, diagnostics and virology, clinical care and treatment, infection prevention and control, and risk communication. WHO has issued interim guidance for countries, which are updated regularly.

WHO has prepared a disease commodity package that includes an essential list of biomedical equipment, medicines and supplies necessary to care for patients with 2019-nCoV.

WHO has provided recommendations to reduce risk of transmission from animals to humans.

WHO has published an updated advice for international traffic in relation to the outbreak of the novel coronavirus 2019-nCoV.

WHO has activated the R&D blueprint to accelerate diagnostics, vaccines, and therapeutics.

OpenWHO is an interactive, web-based, knowledge-transfer platform offering online courses to improve the response to health emergencies. COVID-19 courses can be found here. Specifically, WHO has developed online courses on the following topics: A general introduction to emerging respiratory viruses, including novel coronaviruses (available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish, Hindi, Persian, Portuguese, Serbian, and Turkish); Clinical Care for Severe Acute Respiratory Infections (available in English, French, Russian, and Vietnamese); Health and safety briefing for respiratory diseases - ePROTECT (available in English, French, Russian, Indonesian, and Portuguese); Infection Prevention and Control for Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) (available in Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, and Serbian); and COVID-19 Operational Planning Guidelines and COVID-19 Partners Platform to support country preparedness and response (available in English and coming soon in additional languages).

WHO is providing guidance on early investigations, which are critical in an outbreak of a new virus. The data collected from the protocols can be used to refine recommendations for surveillance and case definitions, to characterize the key epidemiological transmission features of COVID-19, help understand spread, severity, spectrum of disease, impact on the community and to inform operational models for implementation of countermeasures such as case isolation, contact tracing and isolation. Several protocols are available here. One such protocol is for the investigation of early COVID-19 cases and contacts (the "First Few X (FFX) Cases and contact investigation protocol for 2019-novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) infection"). The protocol is designed to gain an early understanding of the key clinical, epidemiological and virological characteristics of the first cases of COVID-19 infection detected in any individual country, to inform the development and updating of public health guidance to manage cases and reduce the potential spread and impact of infection.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

If you are not in an area where COVID-19 is spreading or have not travelled from an area where COVID-19 is spreading or have not been in contact with an infected patient, your risk of infection is low. It is understandable that you may feel anxious about the outbreak. Get the facts from reliable sources to help you accurately determine your risks so that you can take reasonable precautions (see Frequently Asked Questions). Seek guidance from WHO, your healthcare provider, your national public health authority or your employer for accurate information on COVID-19 and whether COVID-19 is circulating where you live. It is important to be informed of the situation and take appropriate measures to protect yourself and your family (see Protection measures for everyone).

If you are in an area where there are cases of COVID-19 you need to take the risk of infection seriously. Follow the advice of WHO and guidance issued by national and local health authorities. For most people, COVID-19 infection will cause mild illness however, it can make some people very ill and, in some people, it can be fatal. Older people, and those with pre-existing medical conditions (such as cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory disease or diabetes) are at risk for severe disease (See Protection measures for persons who are in or have recently visited (past 14 days) areas where COVID-19 is spreading).

CASE DEFINITIONS

WHO periodically updates the Global Surveillance for human infection with coronavirus disease (COVID-19) document which includes case definitions.

For easy reference, case definitions are included below.

Suspect case
A. A patient with acute respiratory illness (fever and at least one sign/symptom of respiratory disease, e.g., cough, shortness of breath), AND a history of travel to or residence in a location reporting community transmission of COVID-19 disease during the 14 days prior to symptom onset.
   OR
B. A patient with any acute respiratory illness AND having been in contact with a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case (see definition of contact) in the last 14 days prior to symptom onset;
   OR
C. A patient with severe acute respiratory illness (fever and at least one sign/symptom of respiratory disease, e.g., cough, shortness of breath; AND requiring hospitalization) AND in the absence of an alternative diagnosis that fully explains the clinical presentation.

Probable case
A. A suspect case for whom testing for the COVID-19 virus is inconclusive.
   a. Inconclusive being the result of the test reported by the

after the onset of symptoms of a probable or confirmed case:

1. Face-to-face contact with a probable or confirmed case within 1 meter and for more than 15 minutes;
2. Direct physical contact with a probable or confirmed case;
3. Direct care for a patient with probable or confirmed COVID-19 disease without using proper personal protective equipment[1]; OR
4. Other situations as indicated by local risk assessments.

Note: for confirmed asymptomatic cases, the period of contact is measured as the 2 days before through the 14 days *after the date on which the sample was taken* which led to confirmation.

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[1] World Health Organization. Infection prevention and control during health care when COVID-19 is suspected
https://www.who.int/publications-detail/infection-prevention-and-control-during-health-care-when-novel-coronavirus-(ncov)-infection-is-suspected-20200125