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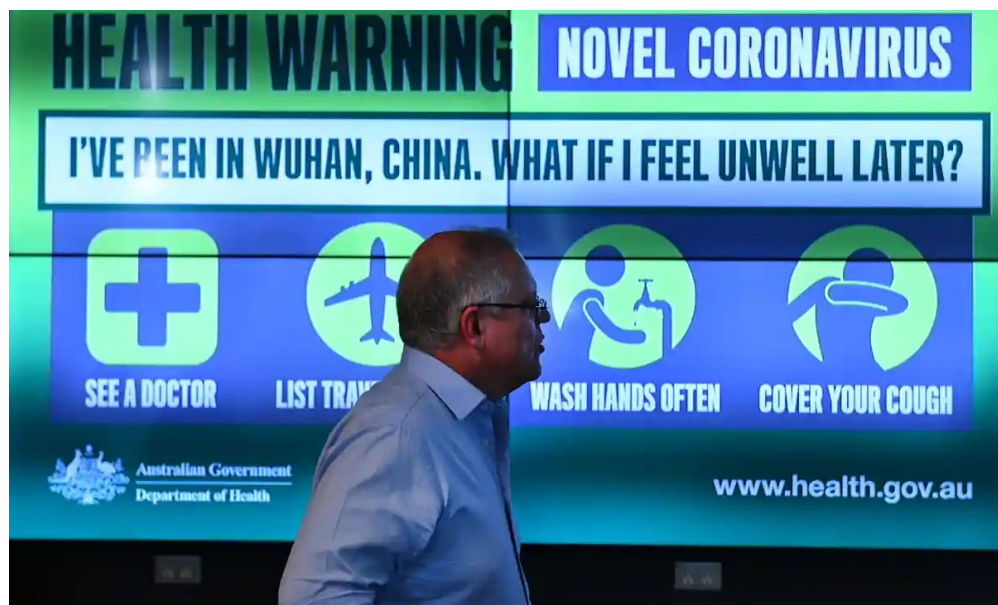
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Coronavirus outbreak

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Coronavirus: three cases in NSW and one in Victoria as infection reaches Australia

Victorian and NSW officials say cases involve men who had visited the Chinese city at the centre of the epidemic



▲ The prime minister, Scott Morrison, at the National Incident Room of the Department of Health in Canberra. A Chinese national in Melbourne is the first confirmed case of coronavirus in Australia. Photograph: Mick Tsikas/AAP

Ben Doherty

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Sat 25 Jan 2020 11.08 GMT



 **426**

Four men, all of whom have direct connections to Wuhan, the Chinese city at the centre of the global coronavirus pandemic, have been confirmed as carrying the deadly virus in Australia.

A man in his 50s in Melbourne became the first confirmed case of novel coronavirus in Australia on Saturday morning, with three other cases confirmed in New South Wales late on Saturday.

Eleven countries have now confirmed cases of novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV), 41 people have died and more than 1,000 have been infected.

Victoria's health minister, Jenny Mikakos, said the man in Melbourne, a Chinese national, arrived at Tullamarine airport at 9am on Sunday 19 January on China Southern Airlines Flight No CZ321 from Guangzhou. He had previously been in Wuhan.

The man tested positive for coronavirus early on Saturday morning. He had visited a GP on Thursday and went to the Monash medical centre at Clayton on Friday, where he was put into isolation.

The man showed no symptoms while travelling, "so may not have been contagious" at the time, Mikakos said. But "out of an abundance of caution" health officials were contacting everybody who was on that flight.

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"There is no reason for alarm in the general community," Mikakos said. "We have strict protocols that are in place in terms of how we deal with these infectious disease outbreaks."

Mikakos said the first infected man and his family "did everything right".

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"He exhibited no symptoms on the flight and when he did experience some symptoms of illness they contacted the GP on Thursday, they called ahead and he was double-masked when he presented to the GP clinic.

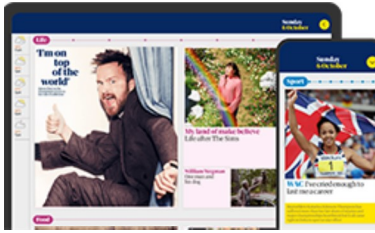
"He was not confirmed to have coronavirus by the GP. The family contacted the Monash medical centre on Friday, they called ahead of time and again he was masked before he turned up at [emergency] and immediately put into isolation."

The three other confirmed Australian cases, all in New South Wales, involve men aged between 30 and 60. Two had visited Wuhan in recent weeks, the other had direct contact with a confirmed case from Wuhan while in China.

A man in his 50s arrived in Sydney from Wuhan on China Eastern flight MU749 on 20 January. He developed symptoms that night and subsequently saw a doctor.

Another man, who is in his 30s, arrived in Sydney from China on 6

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