



Oklahoma State
Department of Health
Creating a State of Health

Coronavirus Fact Sheet

Oklahoma State Department of Health
January 29, 2020

Current Situation

- The Oklahoma State Department of Health consults with healthcare providers to determine if patients meet the symptom and travel history criteria which would warrant further investigation and testing. We are in the process of coordinating testing with our federal partners for two individuals who meet the criteria for persons under investigation.
- While testing is pending, our routine process of investigating suspected infectious disease events is to identify contacts who were at risk of exposure and implement control measures to prevent further transmission.
- Even if a case of novel coronavirus in an Oklahoma resident is confirmed, it is important to note the risk to the general public is low. Public health officials identify possible contacts to a person under investigation and notify them to assess their exposure risk.
- It important to note that a person under investigation is not a case of novel coronavirus.
- The international outbreak of novel coronavirus is a rapidly evolving event. As of January 29, five confirmed cases have occurred among residents in four states, including Washington, Illinois, two in California, and Arizona. At this time, all confirmed U.S. cases have a history of travel to Wuhan, China, which is the epicenter of the outbreak. Although five cases have been identified to date, of 110 persons under investigation identified in 26 states, laboratory testing was negative for 32 individuals. Testing is pending for the remaining 73.

Prevention and Treatment

There is currently no vaccine to prevent 2019-nCoV infection. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.



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- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

These are everyday habits which can help prevent the spread of several viruses. CDC does have specific guidance for travelers at <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/alert/novel-coronavirus-china>.

There are no specific treatments for illnesses caused by human coronaviruses. Most people with common human coronavirus illness will recover on their own. However, you can do some things to relieve your symptoms:

- Take pain and fever medications (Caution: do not give Aspirin to children).
- Use a room humidifier or take a hot shower to help ease a sore throat and cough.

If you are mildly sick, you should:

- Drink plenty of liquids
- Stay home and rest

If you are concerned about your symptoms, you should see your healthcare provider.

People who think they may have been exposed to 2019-nCoV should contact your healthcare provider immediately.

Response

In the event Oklahoma receives a confirmed case, the Oklahoma Public Health system has activated the Incident Command System and stands ready with a multitude of statewide and national partners to treat and prevent further spread.



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