

What is 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)?


The 2019 Novel Coronavirus, or 2019-nCoV, is a new respiratory virus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China.

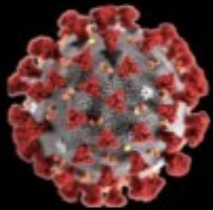
Coronaviruses are a large family of different viruses. Some can infect humans causing symptoms of the common cold and severe respiratory illness.

Analysis of the genetic tree of the 2019-nCoV is ongoing to know the specific source of the virus.

Source: www.cdc.gov/nCoV
DPHSS **2019-nCoV** (02/09/2020)



The community is reminded to only share official notices and visit the CDC website at www.cdc.gov/nCoV for the most up-to-date information. For more information, contact DPHSS: Monday - Friday • 8 AM - 5 PM • (671) 735-7143  www.dphss.guam.gov •  Guam DPHSS



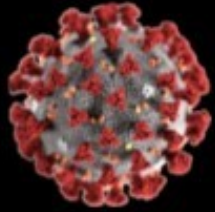
What are steps you can take to protect yourself from respiratory viruses, like novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)?

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.
- Follow CDC's recommendations for using facemask:
 - ⇒ CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear facemask to protect themselves from respiratory viruses, including 2019-nCoV.
 - ⇒ Facemask should be used by people who show symptoms of 2019-nCoV, in order to protect others from the risk of getting infected. The use of facemasks is also crucial for health workers and people who are taking care of someone in close settings (at home or in a health care facility).

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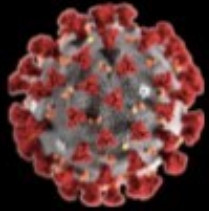
Does CDC recommend the use of facemask in the community to prevent novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)?

No. CDC does not currently recommend the use of facemasks among the general public. While limited person-to-person spread among close contacts has been detected, this virus is not currently spreading in the community in the United States.

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Should I cancel my international travel because of novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)?

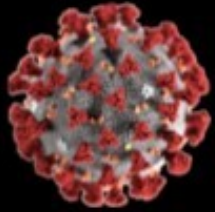
The 2019-nCoV outbreak has been concentrated in China, and CDC recommends avoiding all nonessential travel to China. For travel advice for other countries, please visit that country's Destination Page or the Travel Health Notice website:

wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/warning/novel-coronavirus-china
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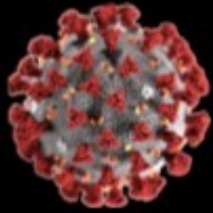
What are steps you can take to protect yourself from respiratory viruses, like novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV), when traveling?

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid animals (alive or dead), animal markets, and products that come from animals (such as uncooked meat).
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.
- In general, CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear masks to protect themselves from novel coronavirus.

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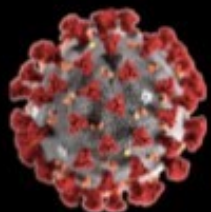
Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) and Animals: What about animals or animal products imported from China?

CDC does not have any evidence to suggest that animals or animal products imported from China pose a risk for spreading 2019-nCoV in the United States. This is a rapidly evolving situation and information will be updated as it becomes available. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) play distinct but complementary roles in regulating the importation of live animals and animal products into the U.S. CDC regulates animals and animal products that pose a threat to human health, USDA regulates external animals and animal products that pose a threat to agriculture; and FWS regulates external importation of endangered species and wildlife that can harm the health and welfare of humans, the interests of agriculture, horticulture, or forestry, and the welfare and survival of wildlife resources.

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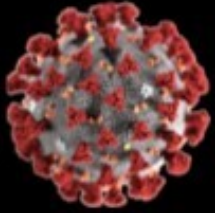
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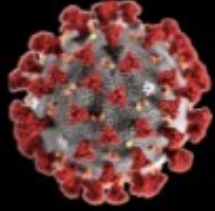
Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) and Animals: Should I avoid contact with pets or other animals if I am sick?

Do not handle pets or other animals while sick. Although there have not been reports of pets or other animals becoming sick with 2019-nCoV, several types of coronaviruses can cause illness in animals and spread between animals and people. Until we know more, avoid contact with animals and wear a facemask if you must be around animals or care for a pet.

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Am I at risk for novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) from a package or products shipping from China?

There is still a lot that is unknown about the newly emerged 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) and how it spreads. Two other coronaviruses have emerged previously to cause severe illness in people (MERS and SARS). 2019-nCoV is more genetically related to SARS than MERS, but both are betacoronaviruses with their origins in bats. While we don't know for sure that this virus will behave the same way as SARS and MERS, we can use the information from both of these earlier coronaviruses to guide us. In general, because of poor survivability of these coronaviruses on surfaces, there is likely very low risk of spread from products or packaging that are shipped over a period of days or weeks at ambient temperatures. Coronaviruses are generally thought to be spread most often by respiratory droplets. Currently there is no evidence to support transmission of 2019-nCoV associated with imported goods and there have not been any cases of 2019-nCoV in the United States associated with imported goods. Information will be provided on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus website as it becomes available.

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