



Novel Coronavirus Update

1 February 2020

The Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC), on the advice of the Communicable Diseases Network Australia (CDNA), considered the changes in epidemiology of novel coronavirus in China. AHPPC noted the increasing (but still relatively small) number of cases in provinces outside Hubei Province and the now resulting increased risk posed from travellers from all of mainland China.

AHPPC agreed on the following:

- To expand the case definition for novel coronavirus infection from 1 February 2020 to apply to people from all of mainland China.
- Recommend to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to now increase travel advisory to level 4 – do not travel to all of mainland China.
- As of today, all travellers arriving out of mainland China (not just Hubei Province) be asked to self-isolate for a period of 14 days from the time they leave mainland China.
- That to substantially reduce the volume of travellers coming from mainland China, AHPPC recommends additional border measures be implemented to deny entry to Australia to people who have left or transited through mainland China from 1 February 2020, with the exception of Australian citizens, permanent residents and their immediate family and air crews who have been using appropriate personal protective equipment. This also applies to passengers transiting in Australia, unless they are Australian citizens, permanent residents or their immediate families.



Novel Coronavirus Information Sheet

There is currently an outbreak of a novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in mainland China.

What is coronavirus?

Coronaviruses are a type of virus that can affect humans and animals. Some coronaviruses cause illness similar to the common cold while other coronaviruses cause more serious illness, such as severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS).

The novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is primarily affecting people who have recently been in mainland China, or had contact with sick people from mainland China.

What are the symptoms of 2019-nCoV?

Symptoms of 2019-nCoV include fever, cough, vomiting, sore throat and difficulty breathing. Difficulty breathing is a sign of possible pneumonia that requires immediate medical attention.

What should be done if a passenger or crew member is unwell during the 2019-nCoV outbreak?

All ill passengers and crew presenting with fever, sweats or chills should be referred to the ship's doctor for assessment. The ship's doctor will be informed of the current status of 2019-nCoV and will be able to assess the risk based on travel history and exposure.

There are [interim Australian guidelines](#) for the management of suspected cases of 2019-nCoV that may be of assistance.

What is the cruise industry required to report?

All cruise vessels entering Australian territory are legally required to report ill passengers and crew presenting on the pre-arrival report via the Maritime Arrivals Reporting System. A biosecurity officer will then meet the vessel to screen for 2019-nCoV and other serious infectious diseases. Biosecurity officers do this by administering the Traveller with Illness Checklist (TIC) to the ill passenger or crew member, or by discussing case diagnoses with the ship's doctor. A biosecurity officer or human biosecurity officer may then issue directions for the management of a suspected case of nCoV which are legally required to be followed.

Is there information available for passengers and crew?

The Australian Government Department of Health is providing additional communication material for travellers (including passengers and crew) at all Australian international airports and seaports. This material informs travellers about 2019-nCoV and what to do if they have come from a risk area and are unwell. The information sheets are updated as significant developments take place and are also available at <https://www.health.gov.au/information-about-novel-coronavirus>.

How can I reduce the risk to passengers and crew?

Crew should be advised to continue to follow existing employer infection prevention work instructions when in contact with ill passengers, including the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) when recommended by employer work instructions.

While the infection does not currently appear to spread easily between people, the following measures will also help reduce the risk of spread:

- Crew and passengers should be encouraged to practise frequent handwashing.
- Where possible, crew should stay one metre or more away from passengers who are ill unless wearing appropriate PPE.
- Cruise lines should promote good respiratory (cough) etiquette among crew and passengers.
- Cruise ships should undertake appropriate cleaning and disinfection activities.
- Cruise ships should promote the use of appropriate PPE for crew if close contact with an ill passenger is required (e.g. for medical personnel).
- Follow the [interim Australian guidelines for nCoV](#) where appropriate.

Other information

While 2019-nCoV is of concern, it is important to remember that it is currently influenza season in the northern hemisphere. It is likely that the majority of travellers displaying infectious symptoms have a common respiratory infection, rather than 2019-nCoV. However, 2019-nCoV vigilance is important.

The Australian Department of Health is closely monitoring the 2019-nCoV situation in collaboration with the World Health Organization and Australian states and territories. Up to date information on 2019-nCoV is available at www.health.gov.au.

If you require advice for the management of suspected cases of 2019-nCoV, contact the nearest [Australian state or territory health department](#).



致从中国大陆抵澳旅客有关新型冠状病毒的信息

2019年12月下旬，中国湖北省武汉市发生了由一种新型冠状病毒（2019-nCoV）引发的疫情。

什么是冠状病毒？

冠状病毒是一种能够侵染人类和动物的病毒。一些冠状病毒可引起与普通感冒相似的疾病，而另一些冠状病毒则可引起更为严重的疾病，包括严重急性呼吸系统综合症（SARS）和中东呼吸系统综合症（MERS）。

什么是新型冠状病毒（2019-nCoV）？

目前出现了由一种新型冠状病毒引发的传染疾病，感染者主要是最近到访过中国大陆的人士。这种冠状病毒很可能最初来自动物，目前有证据表明该病毒可以在人与人之间传播。除澳大利亚外，还有多个国家报告了新型冠状病毒感染病例。

感染新型冠状病毒后会有什么症状？

症状包括（但不限于）发烧、咳嗽、喉咙痛、疲劳和气短。如果出现呼吸困难的症状，则有可能是患上了肺炎，需要立即就医。

一旦被该病毒感染后，可能需要 14 天才能显现症状。

目前已生病，该怎么办？

如果出现发烧、出汗、发冷或呼吸困难，请立即通知机场或海港的检疫人员。

如果最近到过中国大陆，该怎么办？

如果在过去的 14 天内到过中国大陆，则必须在离开中国大陆的 14 天里将自己隔离在家。也就是说，不应去公共场所，尤其是工作单位、学校、托儿所或大学。详细信息，请参见 www.health.gov.au

如果在澳期间生病了，该怎么办？

如果症状轻微：

- 将自己与其他人隔离，如有可能，请佩戴口罩；以及
- 致电给医生或医院，告知最近曾到过的地方。

如果症状严重，比如呼吸困难：

- 拨打 000 叫救护车，并告知急救人员最近曾到过的地方。

遵循良好的手部卫生习惯和打喷嚏/咳嗽礼仪是防御大多数病毒的最好方法。应该：

- 经常用肥皂洗手；
- 遵守良好的咳嗽礼仪——咳嗽或打喷嚏时要掩面，然后洗手；和
- 避免与他人近距离接触（包括触摸、亲吻、拥抱和亲密接触）。

从哪里可以获得有关新型冠状病毒的更多信息？

请访问澳大利亚联邦政府卫生部网站：www.health.gov.au

拨打公共卫生信息热线：1800 004 599。



Novel Coronavirus Information for Travellers Arriving in Australia from mainland China

An outbreak of novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) was detected in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China in late December 2019.

What is coronavirus?

Coronaviruses can make humans and animals sick. Some can cause illnesses similar to the common cold and others cause more serious illnesses, including severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS).

What is novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)?

There is a new coronavirus primarily affecting people who have recently been in mainland China. It's likely that the coronavirus originally came from an animal, and there is now evidence that it can spread from person-to-person. There have been cases of 2019-nCoV reported in other countries.

What are the symptoms of 2019-nCoV?

Symptoms include (but are not limited to) fever, cough, sore throat, fatigue and shortness of breath. Difficulty breathing is a sign of possible pneumonia and requires immediate medical attention.

It can take up to 14 days for symptoms to show after a person has been infected.

What do I do if I am sick right now?

If you have fever, sweats, chills or shortness of breath, let a biosecurity officer at the air or sea port know now.

What do I do if I have been in mainland China?

If you have been in mainland China within the past 14 days, you must isolate yourself in your home for 14 days after leaving mainland China. This means you should not attend public places, in particular work, school, childcare or university. Detailed information can be found at www.health.gov.au.

What do I do if I get sick while in Australia?

If you develop mild symptoms:

- Isolate yourself from other people and put on a mask if you have one; and
- Call a doctor or hospital and tell them your recent travel history.

If you have serious symptoms such as difficulty breathing:

- Call 000 and ask for an ambulance and notify the officers of your recent travel history.

Practicing good hand and sneeze/cough hygiene is the best defence against most viruses. You should:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water;
- Use good cough etiquette - cover your cough or sneeze and wash your hands afterwards; and
- Avoid close contact with others (including touching, kissing, hugging, and intimate contact).

Where can I get more information about 2019-nCoV?

Visit the Australian Government Department of Health's website at www.health.gov.au

Call the Public Health Information Line on 1800 004 599.