

2019 Novel Coronavirus Outbreak Update and Healthcare Provider Guidance**

Outbreak Background:

The 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) outbreak originating in **Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China** began in December 2019 and has been linked to a large seafood and animal market, suggesting a possible zoonotic origin. **Human-to-human transmission has been confirmed.** As of January 21, 2020, 2019-nCoV cases have been confirmed in China, Japan, South Korea, Thailand, and the United States.

The first case of 2019-nCoV was reported in a person in the United States on January 21, 2020.

People infected with 2019-nCoV present with:

- **Fever and/or**
- **Acute respiratory symptoms, such as cough and shortness of breath.**

Healthcare providers caring for a patient with fever and/or acute respiratory symptoms should:

- Obtain travel history, including to Wuhan City, China, for the 14 days prior to symptom onset;
- Consider adding travel screening to Wuhan City, China to your patient triage protocol, and;
- Determine if the patient meets criteria outlined below:

Criteria to Guide Evaluation of Patients Under Investigation (PUI)

Clinical Features	Plus	Epidemiologic Risk
Fever* AND symptoms of lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough, difficulty breathing)	AND	In the last 14 days before symptom onset, a history of travel to Wuhan City, China — OR — In the last 14 days before symptom onset, having close contact† with a person who is under investigation for 2019-nCoV while that person was ill.
Fever* OR symptoms of lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough, difficulty breathing)	AND	In the last 14 days before symptom onset, close contact† with an ill laboratory-confirmed 2019-nCoV patient.

* Fever may not be present in some patients, such as those who are very young, elderly, immunosuppressed, or taking certain medications. Clinical judgement should be used to guide testing of patients in such situations.

† Close contact is defined at the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/clinical-criteria.html#foot2>

For all patients who meet PUI criteria for 2019-nCoV:

- 1) Healthcare personnel entering the room should **use airborne precautions, plus standard precautions, contact precautions, and eye protection** (e.g., goggles or a face shield);
- 2) Immediately **notify your healthcare facility's infection control personnel;**
- 3) Immediately **notify Maricopa County Department of Public Health:**
 - a. **Monday–Friday 8AM–5PM** — call **(602) 506-6767** and ask for a Surveillance Nurse or;
 - b. **After 5PM and on weekends** — call **(602) 747-7111** and ask for the Provider On-Call.
- 4) **Collect specimens for testing** for 2019-nCoV, which include:
 - a. Lower respiratory specimen (e.g., sputum, BAL);
 - b. Upper respiratory specimen (e.g., nasopharyngeal and oropharyngeal [NP/OP] swab), and;
 - c. Serum.