

February 2020

# INFORMATION Coronavirus Covid-19

Learn more about it

## 1 What is coronavirus Covid-19

Coronaviruses are a family of viruses that cause illness in humans ranging from the common cold to severe respiratory pathologies.

A new strain of coronavirus that causes lung infections was identified in Mainland China at the end of December 2019.

## 2 Which geographic areas are at risk?



The first cases were identified in the city of Wuhan, China.

Before travelling consult the **travel advice** for affected areas provided on your government's healthcare service websites, for example [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) in the United States.

## 3 How is it transmitted?

Coronavirus lung infections spread via respiratory droplets (coughing, sneezing, etc.) after **close contact** with an infected person.

## 4 When is a person contagious?

A person is contagious when they show symptoms. According to recent reports, it might be possible to be infectious before showing significant symptoms.

## 5 What are the first symptoms?

Fever, coughing, and breathing difficulties occurring within 14 days of returning from a risk area.



## 6 How can you protect yourself?



> **People who are sick** should wear a surgical mask to prevent the disease spreading through the air.

> **People who are not sick** do not need to wear a mask and its efficiency has not been proven.

> **Healthcare professionals** in direct contact with infected people must wear specific protective equipment.



Everyone should **wash hands frequently**.

## 7 What should a person returning from an affected area do?

If you have just returned from an area where the coronavirus is circulating

If you have a fever, a cough and breathing difficulties **within 14 days of returning**



**Stay at home and phone your local health service to request health care and provide them with your travel history**



Follow advices from the local health service and avoid all contact with other people.

## 8 How is it treated?

Infected people receive care in identified healthcare establishments which treat their symptoms.

Any questions?



<https://www.who.int/home>