

COVID-19

What you need to know...



What is Coronavirus?

- A novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is a new strain that has not been previously identified in humans.
- It is a virus (a coronavirus) identified as the cause of an outbreak of respiratory illness first detected in Wuhan, China.
- They are a large family of viruses that cause illness ranging from common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV).



When was the Coronavirus discovered?

- In December 2019, a pneumonia outbreak was reported in Wuhan, China.
- The outbreak was traced to a novel strain of coronavirus, which has now been given the name by the World Health Organization (WHO) as COVID-19 ('CO' stands for 'corona', 'VI' stands for 'virus', and 'D' stands for 'disease').
- The '19' indicates the year it was discovered '2019'.



Where did it come from?



- Many researchers believe that COVID-19 came from bats.
- A Wuhan Seafood Market may have been the starting point of the outbreak.
- So far, evidence suggests that bats spread the coronavirus to an intermediate host (i.e., animal species) before spilling over to people. Although more research is needed.

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

- The coronavirus looks a lot like other respiratory viruses, like colds or the flu. Most people who get the coronavirus don't really get sick, but some people do and might go to the hospital. The most common symptoms associated to the coronavirus are:
 - **Fever • Cough**
 - **Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing***Chills, body aches, sore throat, headache, vomiting, diarrhea or runny nose*
- These symptoms can occur between 2 and 14 days after they catch the virus. This is considered the incubation period.

**COVID
19**
CORONAVIRUS
DISEASE

**CORONAVIRUS DISEASE
2019 (COVID-19)**

SYMPTOMS* OF CORONAVIRUS DISEASE

Patients with COVID-19 have reportedly had mild to severe respiratory illness.

Symptoms can include

- **Fever**
- **Cough**
- **Shortness of breath**

*** Symptoms may appear 2–14 days after exposure. If you have been in China within the past 2 weeks and develop symptoms, call your doctor.**

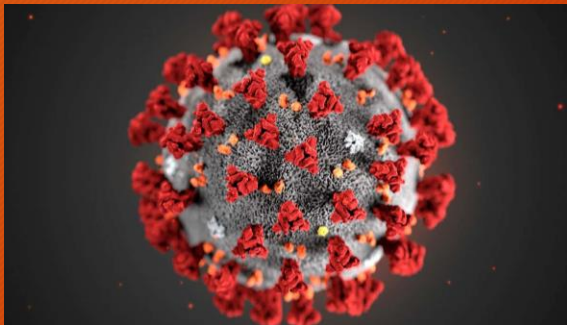


www.cdc.gov/COVID19

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How does the coronavirus spread from person to person?

- It is believed that the coronavirus spreads through the air through respiratory droplets when someone sneezes, coughs, or through personal contact like touching or shaking hands.
- It could also spread when a person touches an object or surface that has coronavirus on it and then touches their mouth, nose, or eyes.



How can I prevent getting 2019 novel coronavirus?



- There is no vaccine to keep you from catching the coronavirus. The best way to keep from catching 2019 novel coronavirus is to take the necessary precautions you normally do during cold and flu season to keep from getting sick or getting other people sick:
 - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth if you haven't washed your hands.
 - Avoid close contact with people who are sick (keep a 6-foot distance).

How can I prevent getting 2019 novel coronavirus?



If you are sick, stay home and try to stay away from other people.

Always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue and throw the tissue in the trash or bend your arm and use your sleeve when you cough or sneeze (“The Vampire Sneeze/Cough”).

Using a mask is not recommended for people who do not have the virus.



How can I prevent getting 2019 novel coronavirus?



- Using a mask is only recommended for someone who could have or is confirmed to have the coronavirus and their caretakers and health care professionals.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that are frequently touched with a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

What is the treatment for the coronavirus?

- Most people who have had 2019 novel coronavirus get better just by resting, drinking fluids and taking fever medicine like Tylenol or ibuprofen.
- For people who get sicker, they may need to go to the hospital. Currently, there is no medicine or cure that works specifically on coronavirus.



Keep a Commonsense Approach



- Winter in Philadelphia is a time when respiratory viruses make people sick.
- The common cold and flu are some of the things that can also cause people to cough or have a fever.
- It is recommended to get the flu vaccine, taking everyday preventive actions to help stop the spread of germs, and taking flu antivirals if prescribed.
- Remember, at this time, the risk of 2019 novel coronavirus in Philadelphia is low.
- The Health Department is working with healthcare providers and community partners to keep our communities safe and healthy.



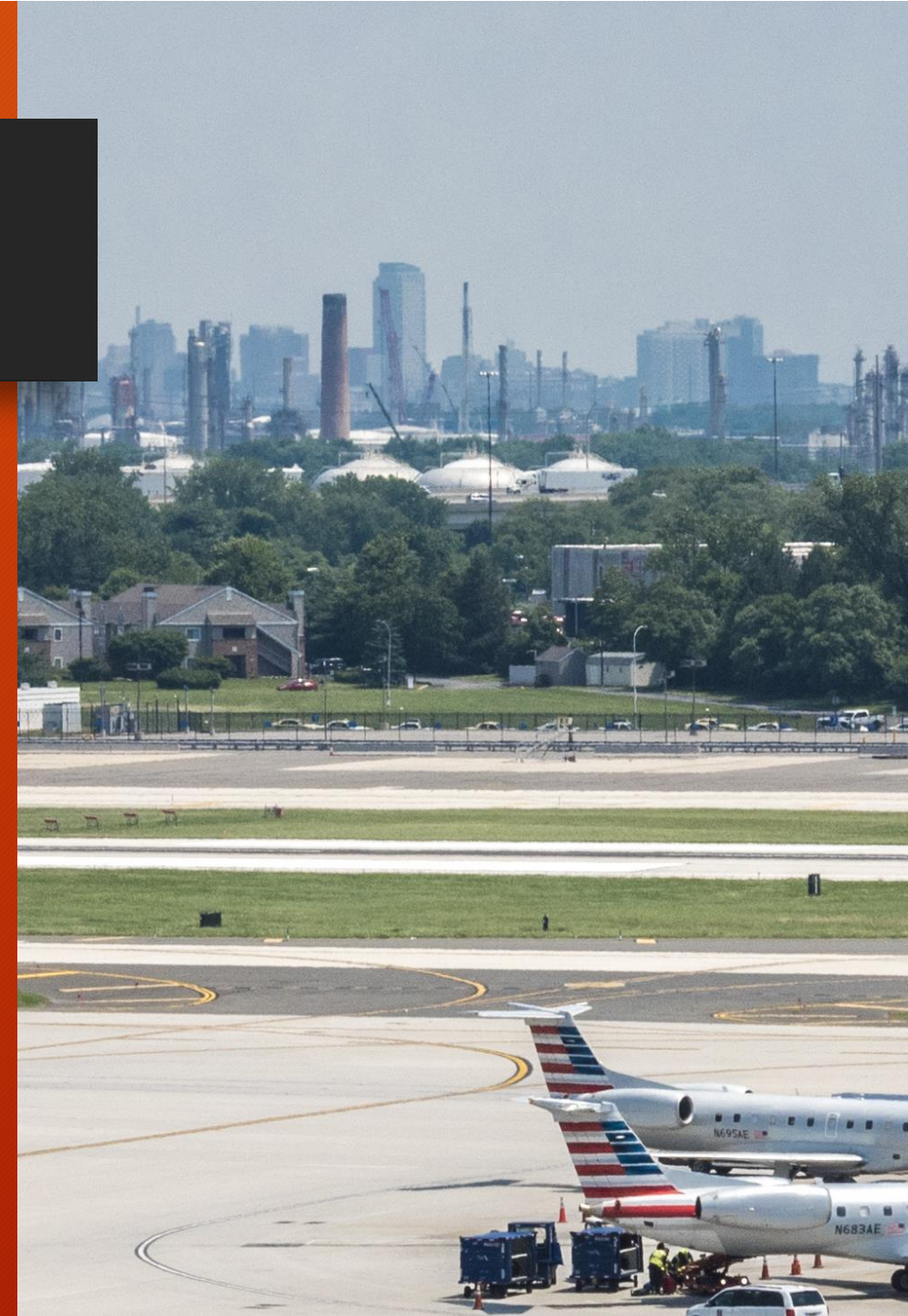
Keep a Commonsense Approach

For people who may have COVID-19 infection:
Please follow CDC guidance on how to reduce the risk of spreading your illness to others.

For travelers: Stay up to date with CDC's travel health notices related to this outbreak

What is DOA doing?

- The DOA is not issuing masks per the CDC & Health Department Guidelines.
- The DOA is alerted to any changes of the status of the Coronavirus outbreak by the Health Department or the CDC.
- Hand sanitizers and wipes have been distributed to DOA employees.
- Employees should keep a distance of 6 feet from sick people.
- Custodial Services in addition to their normal cleaning has increased cleaning on frequently touched surfaces (e.g. elevator buttons, handrails, door knobs, etc).



Where can I find more information?

- Visit the Philadelphia Department of Public Health Website;
<https://www.phila.gov/departments/departments-of-public-health/>
- Visit the Center for Disease Control and Prevention website;
www.cdc.gov
- You can also visit the World Health Organization website;
www.who.int

Questions, Comments, Concerns

