

# Novel Coronavirus

## What is novel coronavirus?

Novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is a virus strain that has only spread in people since December 2019. Health experts are concerned because little is known about this new virus and it has the potential to cause severe illness and pneumonia in some people.

## How does novel coronavirus spread?

Health experts are still learning the details about how this new coronavirus spreads. Other coronaviruses spread from an infected person to others through:



the air by coughing and sneezing



touching a surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes



close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands



in rare cases, contact with feces

## What are the symptoms?

People who have been diagnosed with novel coronavirus have reported symptoms that may appear in as few as two days or as long as 14 days after exposure to the virus:



Fever



Cough



Difficulty breathing



Severe illness

## How can I prevent getting novel coronavirus?

If you are traveling overseas (to China but also to other places) follow the CDC's guidance: [www.cdc.gov/travel](http://www.cdc.gov/travel). Right now, the novel coronavirus has not been spreading widely in the United States, so there are no additional precautions recommended for the general public. Steps you can take to prevent spread of flu and the common cold will also help prevent coronavirus:

- Wash hands often with soap and water. If not available, use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home while you are sick and avoid close contact with others.
- Cover your mouth/nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing.

To learn more, visit

[www.snhd.info/coronavirus](http://www.snhd.info/coronavirus)  
[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

