

2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) BRIEFING

IREDELL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
AS OF MARCH 3, 2020





TOPICS OF DISCUSSION



- **Public Health Terms Defined**
- **What is the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)?**
- **COVID-19 Outbreak Update**
- **Centers for Disease Control & Prevention Actions**
- **North Carolina Department of Health & Human Services Actions**
- **Iredell County Health Department Actions**
- **Ways to Prevent COVID-19 & Protect Yourself**
- **Ways to learn more about COVID-19**



PUBLIC HEALTH DEFINITIONS



- **Novel**
 - New and not resembling something formerly known or used (Merriam-Webster, 2020).
- **Quarantine**
 - A public health practice used to separate and restrict the movement of well persons who may have been exposed to a communicable disease to see if they become ill. (US Health & Human Services [US HHS], 2009).
- **Isolation**
 - A public health practice to separate ill persons who have a communicable disease from those who are healthy. (US HHS, 2009).



PUBLIC HEALTH DEFINITIONS



- **Travel Related**
 - When a person travels away from their home area and returns with an illness they did not acquire in their local area (Centers for Disease Control & Prevention [CDC], 2020).
- **Community Transmission**
 - Evidence of transmission of the disease in people with no clear travel history to an area with an outbreak or close contact to a confirmed case (CDC Service Officer, 2020).
- **Widespread Community Transmission**
 - Evidence of transmission of the disease in people with no clear travel history to an area with an outbreak or close contact to a confirmed case that is happening on a consistent basis throughout the community (CDC Service Officer, 2020).
- **Epidemic**
 - The occurrence in a community or region of cases of an illness, specific health-related behavior, or other health-related events clearly in excess of normal expectancy (International Epidemiological Association [IEA], 2001).
- **Outbreak**
 - An epidemic limited to localized increase in the incidence of a disease (IEA, 2001).
- **Pandemic**
 - When a new virus emerges and spreads throughout the world, and most people do not have immunity (World Health Organization, 2010).

PUBLIC HEALTH DEFINITIONS

■ Surgical Mask

- Surgical masks are used as a physical barrier to protect the user from hazards, such as splashes of large droplets of blood or body fluids.
- Surgical masks also protect other people against infection from the person wearing the surgical mask. Such masks trap large particles of body fluids that may contain bacteria or viruses expelled by the wearer.
- Surgical masks are not designed or certified to prevent the inhalation of small airborne contaminants (OSHA, 2009).



■ N95 Respirator

- Respirators are designed to reduce a worker's exposure to airborne contaminants. Respirators come in various sizes and must be individually selected to fit the wearer's face and to provide a tight seal. A proper seal between the user's face and the respirator forces inhaled air to be pulled through the respirator's filter material and not through gaps between the face and respirator. These generally include those workers who work in occupations classified as *very high exposure risk* or *high exposure risk* to respiratory illness (OSHA, 2009).



WHAT IS COVID-19?

- Novel Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person.
- The virus was first identified during an investigation into an outbreak in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China in December 2019.
- Risk of infection is dependent on exposure to the virus.
- The risk of exposure to North Carolinians is low.

COVID
CORONAVIRUS
DISEASE **19**

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

**OR OTHER
AFFECTED
AREAS**

* 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

HOW IS COVID-19 SPREAD?

- Started from an animal and spread to a human
- Now is spreading from person to person by:
 - Coughing
 - Sneezing
 - Touching an object with the virus on it and then touching your nose, mouth, or eyes before washing your hands
 - Close personal contact with someone that has COVID-19

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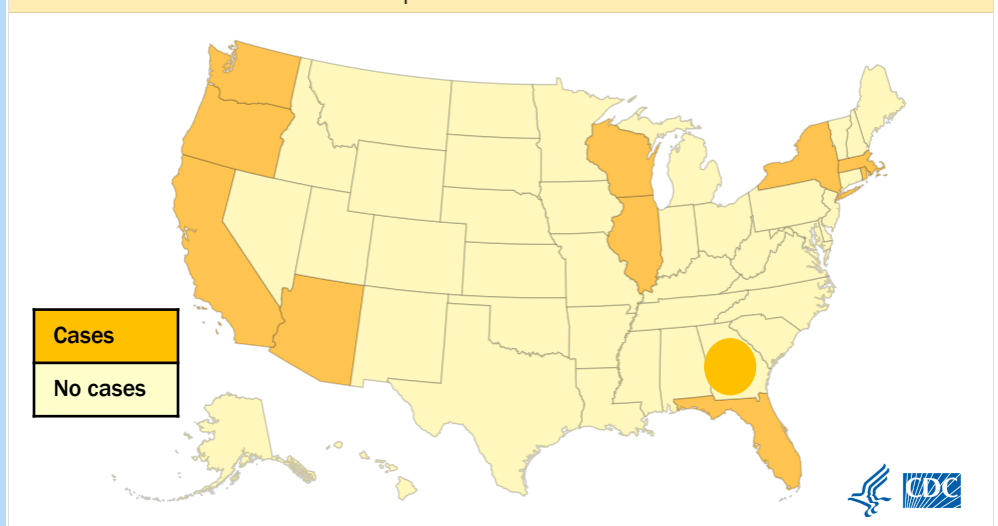
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Rapidly evolving situation (As of 3/2/2020)

- **0 confirmed cases in North Carolina**
- **88,948 cases globally**
 - **China: 80,174 confirmed cases; 2,915 deaths**
 - **8,744 confirmed cases; 128 deaths in other countries**
- **US Cases**
 - **48 repatriated patients from the State Department & Diamond Princess Cruise**
 - **16 cases (12 travel related, 4 person to person)**
 - **6/64 deaths**

States with Confirmed and Presumptive Positive Cases of COVID-19*



<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html>



CDC CASE DEFINITION OF COVID-19



As of February 28, 2020

Clinical Features	&	Epidemiologic Risk
Fever ¹ or signs/symptoms of lower respiratory illness (e.g. cough or shortness of breath)	AND	Any person, including healthcare workers ² , who has had close contact ³ with a laboratory-confirmed ⁴ COVID-19 patient within 14 days of symptom onset
Fever ¹ and signs/symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough or shortness of breath) requiring hospitalization	AND	A history of travel from affected geographic areas ⁵ (see below) within 14 days of symptom onset
Fever ¹ with severe acute lower respiratory illness (e.g., pneumonia, ARDS) requiring hospitalization and without alternative explanatory diagnosis (e.g., influenza) ⁶	AND	No source of exposure has been identified

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/clinical-criteria.html>



TRAVEL ADVISORIES



- Community transmission originated in Wuhan, China
- January 30, 2020 World Health Organization issued a Public Health Emergency of International Concern
- January 31, 2020 US Department of Health & Human Services declared a domestic public health emergency
- Now other countries are experiencing community transmission and widespread community transmission
- Federal Requirement as of early January 31, 2020:
 - Travelers from China are required to fly into one of 11 airports in US and receive medical screening and follow up to know if they have symptoms of COVID-19 or develop COVID-19 symptoms after returning to the US
- Federal Requirement as of 2/29/2020:
 - US government suspends entry of foreign nationals who have been in Iran within the past 14 days.

Affected Geographic Areas with Widespread or Sustained Community Transmission

Last updated February 28, 2020

- China ([Level 3 Travel Health Notice](#))
- Iran ([Level 3 Travel Health Notice](#))
- Italy ([Level 3 Travel Health Notice](#))
- Japan ([Level 2 Travel Health Notice](#))
- South Korea ([Level 3 Travel Health Notice](#))

1 Exercise normal precautions

2 Exercise increased caution

3 Reconsider travel

4 Do not travel



CDC ACTIONS



- Containment phase of the response in the United States
- Preparing for mitigation phase of the response, if it is activated
- All return travelers from China must fly into one of **11** identified airports in the Country. The CDC is screening these return travelers for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 before allowing them to travel to their final destination
- Travelers from Hubei Province of Wuhan, China returning to the US will be in quarantine and not able to leave the quarantine facility for **14** days.
- Travelers from other parts of China who do not have any symptoms are being asked to monitor their health and practice social distancing for **14** days. CDC notifies each State Public Health Department of returning travelers that do not have symptoms, but require monitoring.
- Emergency Operation Center Activated with implementation of conference calls across the nation and incident action plans created to create a common operating picture
- Creation of case definition of the illness
- Numerous guidance documents for healthcare discipline and many other audiences to follow
- Working with State laboratories concerning testing patients for COVID-10





NC DHHS ACTIONS



- Activated an Incident Management Team in January
 - Providing guidance to local health departments and the public
 - Providing Incident Action Plans daily
 - Available by phone and email for the Local Health Department to contact about patient consultation and testing
 - Working with local healthcare providers concerning laboratory tests
- Notifying local health departments of return travelers not showing symptoms that require active monitoring for 14 days.
- Governor's Taskforce has been created which includes, NC DHHS, NC Communications, NC Office of Emergency Medical Services, NC Emergency Management, 911, and other state level partners
- Weekly calls with Public Health, Hospital Preparedness Program, Emergency Medical Services, 911, and Emergency Management





NC DHHS ACTIONS



- Established Public Hotline with NC Poison Control
 - 1-866-462-3821
- Updated guidance for healthcare and non-healthcare settings on the NC DHHS website & NC OEMS website

<https://epi.dph.ncdhhs.gov/cd/diseases/COVID19.html>

<https://www.ncems.org>





ICHD ACTIONS



- Activated Epidemiology Team
- ICHD will be notified by NC DHHS of travelers returning to Iredell County from other parts of China who do not have any symptoms but are being asked to self-monitor their health for 14 days
- ICHD will monitor the return travelers through daily telephone contact
- Meeting regularly to discuss preparedness, plans, response
 - Internally and with partners agencies in the community
- Attending weekly calls with CDC, NC DHHS & Hospitals/EMS
- Reviewing Health Department plans and policies
- Disseminating information to healthcare providers and partners via blast fax and email
- Fielding calls from healthcare providers and the public
- Continuing to ask travel questions when patients make appointments or come to the Health Department
- Working with EMS and the 911 call center to modify Call Guidance protocol for 911 call center
- Inventory of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and ordering of additional PPE and lab supplies
- Coordinated the Iredell County Healthcare Preparedness Committee meeting on February 27th
- Created and shared a flowchart and contact information form for local healthcare providers
- Reviewing NC DHHS and CDC guidance regularly
- Unified communication messages with NC DHHS

WAYS TO PREVENT COVID-19 & PROTECT YOURSELF

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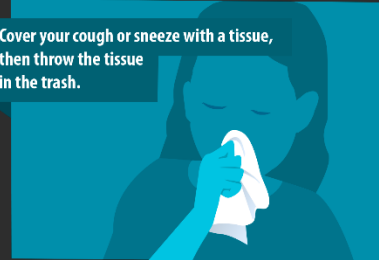
STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

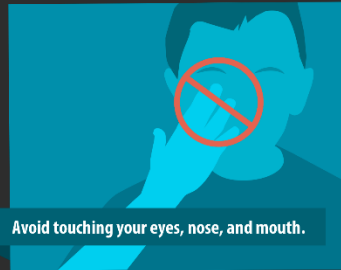
Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



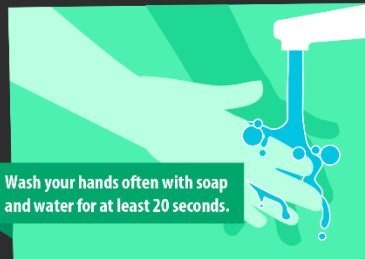
Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



For more information: www.cdc.gov/COVID19



WAYS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT COVID-19



- Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 Website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/symptoms.html>
- North Carolina Department of Health & Human Services (NCDHHS) COVID-19 Website: <https://epi.dph.ncdhhs.gov/cd/diseases/COVID19.html>
- Iredell County Health Department website: <https://www.co.iredell.nc.us/161/Health-Department>
- North Carolina Public Information Hotline: 1-866-462-3821



THANK YOU



The mission of Iredell County Health Department is to promote and protect personal, community, and environmental health



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