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Wuhan Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

Learn about how the Ministry of Health is preparing for the Wuhan novel coronavirus in Ontario. Find out how to protect yourself, what to do if you're sick after you travel and how to recognize possible symptoms.

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Status of cases in Ontario

Every week day at 10:30 a.m. ET, this web page will be updated with the most up-to-date information on the status of cases in Ontario.

The symptoms of Wuhan novel coronavirus, which can include fever and cough, are similar to other respiratory infections, including influenza. As a result, individuals who may simply have the flu are being tested out of an abundance of caution and in line with Ontario’s robust detection protocols. This means that most individuals who are tested are unlikely to be infected with Wuhan novel coronavirus.

Cases currently under investigation	Confirmed cases
19	2 (presumptive)

Last updated: January 27, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. ET

Coronaviruses

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses. They can cause diseases ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

Some human coronaviruses spread easily between people, while others do not.

Your risk of severe disease may be higher if you have a weakened immune system. This may be the case for:

- older people
- people with chronic disease (for example, diabetes, cancer, heart, renal or chronic lung disease)

Wuhan novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

On December 31, 2019, Chinese health authorities identified a new (or novel) coronavirus (referred to as 2019-nCoV) through a series of reported cases of pneumonia in Wuhan, China.

Laboratory testing

Testing is being conducted at the Public Health Ontario Laboratory, which is working collaboratively with the National Microbiology Laboratory in Winnipeg.

How Ontario is preparing

Ontario is working with its partners in the health care system implementing a robust plan to monitor for, detect and, if needed, isolate any cases the Wuhan novel coronavirus. The Ministry of Health is taking several steps to ensure the health and safety of Ontarians. This includes:

- monitoring hospitals for potential cases of the virus in individuals with travel history to Wuhan, China
- adding novel coronavirus as a designated disease reportable under Ontario's public health legislation, enabling local public health units to quickly and effectively take all necessary measures to investigate, complete lab tests and do case and contact management to prevent and control further spread of the infection
- ongoing planning with federal and provincial/territorial partners and readiness to coordinate with other provinces/territories if the virus is identified in Ontario
- promoting awareness and providing guidance to health care providers
- closely monitoring the situation and coordinating with [Public Health Ontario](#) and [Public Health Agency of Canada](#)
- meeting with hospitals, paramedics and local public health units near Pearson International Airport to provide further information on the federal border screening measures

Symptoms

Symptoms range from common to severe respiratory illnesses and include:

- fever
- cough
- difficulty breathing
- pneumonia and kidney failure

In severe cases, death can be an outcome.

How to protect yourself

To reduce exposure to and transmission of a range of illnesses, including coronaviruses, you should follow usual health precautions such as:

- washing your hands often
- avoiding contact with people who are sick
- practising proper cough and sneeze etiquette

If you are travelling to an area known to have cases of coronavirus, be sure to avoid:

- high-risk areas such as farms, live animal markets and areas where animals may be slaughtered
 - contact with animals (alive or dead), including pigs, chickens, ducks and wild birds
 - surfaces with animal droppings or secretions on them
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Feeling sick after travel

If symptoms of an existing medical condition worsen while travelling, and you are still sick when you return to Canada:

- tell a flight attendant or a border services officer when you arrive so they can decide whether you need further medical assessment

If you are sick after you return to Canada:

- see a health care provider and tell them the countries you visited, and if you received medical care (for example, blood transfusions, injections, dental care or surgery)

If you were sick while you were away:

- see a health care provider and tell them the countries you visited, and if you received medical care (for example, blood transfusions, injections, dental care or surgery)
- tell a flight attendant or a border services officer when you arrive. They will decide whether you need further medical assessment.

If you are travelling to another country:

- [learn about travel advisories related to Wuhan novel coronavirus](#)
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Treatment

There are no specific treatments for coronaviruses, and there is no vaccine that protects against coronaviruses. Most people with common human coronavirus illness will recover on their own.

If symptoms feel worse than a standard cold, see your health care practitioner. They can relieve symptoms by prescribing a pain or fever medication.

You should also:

- drink plenty of fluids

- get rest and sleep as much as possible
- try a humidifier or a hot shower to help with a sore throat or cough

24/7 help by phone

[Telehealth](#): 1-866-797-0000

Ontario news about Wuhan novel coronavirus

[News Release: Ontario Confirms Second Presumptive Case of Wuhan Novel Coronavirus \(January 27, 2020\)](#)

[News Release: Ontario Protecting Students from Emerging Issue of the Wuhan Novel Coronavirus \(January 26, 2020\)](#)

[News Release: Ontario Confirms First Case of Wuhan Novel Coronavirus \(January 25, 2020\)](#)

[News release: Federal Government Increasing Measures to Monitor Wuhan Novel Coronavirus Risks at Canadian Airports, Including Pearson \(January 24, 2020\)](#)

[News release: Ontario Takes Steps to Safeguard the Health of the Public Against the Coronavirus \(January 22, 2020\)](#)

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