What You Need to Know about 2019-nCoV

How Henry Ford Is Prepared for 2019-nCoV
We are screening patients for recent travel history to China, symptoms of respiratory illness related to 2019-nCoV and possible exposure to someone who is being evaluated for or has confirmed 2019-nCoV. We are well-trained to provide safe and effective medical care. Infection control measures are in place to protect our patients, team members and visitors. We continue to work with our community partners at the CDC, Michigan Department of Health & Human Services and local health departments.

The 2019-nCoV Novel Coronavirus
This outbreak of a respiratory illness is caused by a new coronavirus first detected in Wuhan, China, and continues to spread. To date, the severity of illness has ranged from mild to severe. The first U.S. case was reported in Washington State on Jan. 21 involving a resident who traveled to Wuhan. The World Health Organization has declared the outbreak a worldwide public health emergency. Because this coronavirus is new, there are ongoing investigations to learn more about its characteristics.

Travel Advisory
Effective Jan. 30, the U.S. State Department issued a Do Not Travel Advisory to China.

Airport Screening
Detroit Metro Airport is screening travelers returning from China. Public Health determines next steps.

Symptoms
Patients with confirmed 2019-nCoV infection have reportedly had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of:
- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

CDC believes at this time that symptoms of 2019-nCoV may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 after exposure. Severe complications cause pneumonia in both lungs.

Risk of Transmission
The fact that this virus has caused serious illness and sustained person-to-person spread in China is concerning. But it’s unclear how easily or sustainably this virus is spreading between people. The risk to individuals is dependent on exposure.

I Had Close Contact with Someone Who Traveled to China – What Should I Do
Stay home and avoid going out in public. Monitor your health starting from the day you first had close contact with the person and continue for 14 days after you last had close contact with the person. Watch for these signs and symptoms:
- Fever. Take your temperature twice a day.
- Coughing.
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
Consult with your doctor by phone, virtual care or your MyChart account for next steps. Do not go to your doctor’s office unannounced. Do not go to urgent care.

If your symptoms worsen – high fever and/or rapid breathing – call 911 and alert the 911 operator of your exposure so paramedics can be prepared for your transport and limit others from being infected.

**Treating 2019-nCoV**
There is no specific antiviral treatment recommended for 2019-nCoV infection. People infected with 2019-nCoV should receive supportive care to help relieve symptoms. Currently, there is no vaccine available to protect against the virus.

**Protect Yourself**
These everyday health hygiene practices are recommended to prevent the spread of respiratory viruses:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or into our sleeve – not your hands. Throw away the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

**Helpful Resources**

Source: CDC, Henry Ford Health System