WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT CORONAVIRUS

▪ Chinese public health authorities have identified a novel coronavirus (COVID-19 Acute Respiratory Disease) not previously seen.
  ▪ 2nd strain reported from China, not yet confirmed

▪ The virus causes fever and respiratory symptoms.

▪ To date, the virus has infected tens of thousands of people, with thousands of reported deaths*

▪ Public health authorities are actively investigating this outbreak and the situation will evolve.
WHAT IS A CORONAVIRUS?

- **Coronaviruses (CoV)** are a large family of viruses that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV).

- **A novel coronavirus (nCoV)** is a new strain that has not been previously identified in humans.

- **Coronaviruses are transmitted between animals and people.** Several known coronaviruses are circulating in animals that have not yet infected humans.

- **Common signs of infection** include respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, shortness of breath and trouble breathing. In more severe cases, infection can cause pneumonia, severe acute respiratory syndrome, kidney failure and even death.

Source: World Health Organization
COVID-19
COVID-19 NUMBERS WORLDWIDE

- 167,515 cases
- 6,606 deaths
  - 3218 in China
  - 3388 outside China
  - 150 countries
COVID-19 NUMBERS – USA 3/17/20

- 4226 cases
- 75 deaths
COVID-19 NUMBERS – USA 3/9/20

- 755+ cases
- 26 deaths
  - Washington – 22
  - California – 2
  - Florida – 2
HOW DOES CORONAVIRUS SPREAD?

It depends on the particular coronavirus.

Human coronaviruses are rarely spread by fecal contamination but may spread from an infected person to others through:

- **The air** by coughing and sneezing
- **Close personal contact**, such as touching or shaking hands
- **Touching** an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose or eyes before washing your hands

Transmission from person to person is occurring to some extent with 2019-nCoV acute respiratory disease, especially among very close contacts. Surveillance continues.

THIS IS HOW!
WE CAN TAKE STEPS TO HELP PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH

Public health recommendations focus on **standard infection control practices, training and compliance.**
HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

There are currently no vaccines available to protect you against human coronavirus infection.

You may be able to reduce your risk of infection by doing the following:

1. **Wash your hands** often and correctly.
   - The World Health Organization recommends performing hand hygiene with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub if soap and water are not available.

2. **Avoid touching** your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.

3. **Avoid close contact** with people who are sick.

4. **Avoid areas where live animals are being sold or raised** in regions where excessive cases are being reported.

5. **Wear a mask and seek medical advice immediately** if you have a fever or other symptoms after traveling. Tell the doctor where you have traveled.

HOW TO PROTECT OTHERS

If you have cold-like symptoms, you can **help protect others** by doing the following:

- **Washing your hands**
- **Wearing a mask**
- **Staying home while you are sick**
- **Avoiding close contact with others**
- **Covering your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throwing the tissue in the trash and washing your hands**
- **Seeing a doctor immediately**
- **Cleaning and disinfecting objects and surfaces**

Sources: (1) [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/about/prevention.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/about/prevention.html)  (2) [https://www.chp.gov.hk/sc/healthtopics/content/24/102466.html](https://www.chp.gov.hk/sc/healthtopics/content/24/102466.html)
ACTION PLAN FOR HEALTHCARE

PATIENTS

- Wear surgical mask
- Be evaluated in a private room with the door closed (ideally, an airborne infection isolation room)

HEALTHCARE PERSONNEL

- Standard precautions
- Contact precautions
- Airborne precautions
- Eye protection (e.g., goggles or face shield)

HYGIENE

- Frequent hand hygiene
  - The World Health Organization recommends performing hand hygiene with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub if soap and water are not available.
- Disinfection of surfaces using EPA-registered products that have a claim against emerging viral pathogens
ACTION PLAN FOR SENIOR LIVING

▪ Follow local public health recommendations.

▪ Educate and inform all employees of proper infection control procedures

▪ Reinforce personal hygiene (hand and cough) throughout your organization and provide and train on PPE for employees.

▪ Provide hygiene materials such as soap, alcohol-based hand rubs and hand sanitizer stations to residents and employees throughout your property.

▪ Clean and disinfect surfaces and high-touch objects with approved disinfectants. Increase frequency as needed.
  ▪ Hand railings, elevator buttons, public areas and resident rooms should be disinfected regularly.

▪ Consider closing non-essential public areas or delivering foodservice in-room.

Implement infection control procedures.
WHAT STEPS SHOULD YOU TAKE IN YOUR BUSINESS?

- Ensure employee health and hygiene practices are in place, especially proper hand hygiene.

- Disinfect hard surfaces and high-touch areas, including:
  - Railings
  - Doorknobs and handles
  - Restroom surfaces
  - Counters
  - Tabletops

- Ensure availability and proper training of personal protective equipment (PPE) where appropriate.

Good News
Coronavirus is an enveloped virus. Enveloped viruses are the least resistant to disinfection, which means disinfectants can be used to effectively kill coronavirus on surfaces.
READ LABELS CAREFULLY!!
REFERENCES/ADDITIONAL INFO

WHO – www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus
CDC – www.coronavirus.gov
EPA - content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USAEPAOPPT/bulletins/278c716