# PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

## February 5th, 2020

The World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak of 2019 Novel Coronavirus infection (2019-nCoV) a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC). The Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) subsequently declared a public health emergency (PHE) for the United States. The White House then created a Novel Coronavirus Task Force and also issued a proclamation related to quarantine and suspension of entry for people with recent travel to China. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html

As of February 2, 2020 at 5 p.m. ET, there will be a mandatory 14-day quarantine of individuals returning from Hubei Province, China, taking place at the port of entry to the United States.

Those who travel from all other areas of China will be required to self-quarantine and self-monitor for fever and respiratory illness for 14 days after departure from China. **Public health will be in contact with travelers from China upon notification from the Ohio Department of Health.**

Travelers from anywhere in China, including Hubei Province, who arrived in Cincinnati and Hamilton County prior to February 2, 2020 at 5 p.m. ET, are advised to self-monitor for fever and respiratory illness.

**If symptoms develop within 14 days of leaving China, they should avoid contact with others, and call their health care provider to tell them about their symptoms and recent travel. Health care providers should then immediately notify their local health department:**

- Hamilton County Public Health:   513-946-7800
- Cincinnati Health Department:    513-352-7200
- AFTER HOURS/WEEKENDS:        877-774-7636

The outbreak, which originated in Wuhan, Hubei, China, in December 2019 among people who visited a seafood and animal market, is thought to be zoonotic in origin. Person-to-person transmission is currently the primary mode of transmission.  As of February 3, 2020, there are 11 confirmed cases in the United States. To date no cases have been confirmed in Ohio. https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports

The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) has just issued a Health Alert Network (HAN) Update https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00427.asp with updated guidance and recommendations for:

- Clinicians caring for patients with 2019-nCoV: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-guidance-management-patients.html
- Public health officials on the evaluation and testing of patients under investigation (PUIs) for 2019-nCoV: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/clinical-criteria.html
- Infection prevention and control specific to 2019-nCoV: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/infection-control.html

Please implement the newly released CDC Flowchart to Identify and Assess 2019 Novel Coronavirus: https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/pdf/2019-nCoV-identify-assess-flowchart-2020-02-01-508.pdf.

Please report suspected cases of 2019-nCoV infection immediately to your local health department to coordinate potential testing of specimens at CDC. Hamilton County Public Health will continue to closely monitor this rapidly changing situation and will provide further guidance as we receive state and federal updates. Public health continues to work with healthcare providers to ensure state and federal guidelines are communicated.

2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019 n-CoV)
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Healthcare Provider Guidance
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/index.html

Infectious Disease Reporting System
http://idrsinfo.org