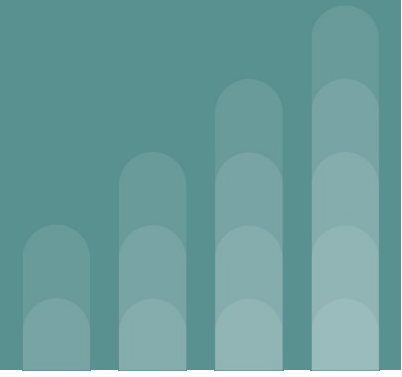


# Coronavirus Disease 2019

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## **What is Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)**

- Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. The virus that causes COVID-19 is a novel coronavirus that was first identified during an investigation into an outbreak in Wuhan, China.



## **Can People in the U.S. get COVID-19?**

- COVID-19 is spreading from person to person in China, and limited spread among close contacts has been detected in some countries outside China, including the United States. Right now, the greatest risk of infection is for people in China or people who have traveled to China. Risk of infection is dependant on exposure. Close contacts of people who are infected are at greater risk of exposure, for example health care workers and close contacts of people who are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19.



## **Have there been cases of COVID-19 in the U.S.?**

- Yes. The first case of COVID-19 in the United States was reported on January 21, 2020.



## How does COVID-19 spread?

- The virus that causes COVID-19 probably emerged from an animal source, but now it seems to be spreading from person to person. It's important to note that person-to-person spread can happen on a continuum. At this time, it's unclear how easily or sustainably the virus that causes COVID-19 is spreading between people.



## What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

- Patients with COVID-19 have had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of
  - Fever
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath
- Severe complications can be pneumonia in both lungs.



## **How can I protect myself?**

- The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.



## **Simple everyday preventive actions.**

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.





## **What should I do if I recently traveled to China?**

- If you were in China the past 14 days and feel sick with fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, you should seek medical care. Call the office of your health care provider before you go, and tell them about your travel and your symptoms. They will give you instructions on how to get care without exposing other people to your illness. While sick, avoid contact with people, don't go out and delay any travel to reduce the possibility of spreading illness to others.



## **Is there a vaccine/treatment?**

- There is currently no vaccine to protect against COVID-19. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.
- There is no specific antiviral treatment for COVID-19. People with COVID-19 can seek medical care to help relieve symptoms.