

Novel Coronavirus FAQs

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What Is 2019 novel coronavirus?

The 2019 novel coronavirus (now called COVID-19) is a new virus that causes respiratory illness in people and can spread from person-to-person. This virus was first identified during an investigation into an outbreak in Wuhan, China around the end of 2019.

How does novel coronavirus spread?

Health experts are still learning the details about how this new coronavirus spreads. Other coronaviruses spread from an infected person after they start to show symptoms 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
- in rare cases, contact with feces

What are the symptoms of 2019-nCoV?

Patients with COVID-19 have reported mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of: fever, cough, and shortness of breath.

How soon after exposure do symptoms start?

It depends on the type of coronavirus. In general, symptoms usually appear 2–14 days after exposure.

At this time, CDC's guidance is based on the available science around coronaviruses, which suggests that the incubation period ranges from 2 to 14 days and that patients are most contagious when they have a fever/symptoms.

How are coronavirus infections diagnosed?

Special laboratory tests for respiratory or blood specimens are needed to diagnose this novel coronavirus infection. This testing can only be provided through the Kansas Health and Environmental Laboratories for Kansas residents.

Is there a treatment?

There are no medications specifically approved for this novel coronavirus. Most people with mild coronavirus illness will recover on their own by drinking plenty of fluids, resting, and taking pain and fever medications. However, some people have developed pneumonia and require medical care or hospitalization.

The Good News: Children don't seem to get as sick

In all the reports so far, while children do get the COVID-19, they don't seem to get as sick as adults. All the basics apply: push fluids, rest, and take pain and fever medication. Call if short of breath or if breathing problems develop. Don't go out, stay home.

SOURCE: http://www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus/download/Novel_coronavirus_FAQ.pdf

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