



Health Alert



Lori Lightfoot, Mayor

Chicago Health Alert Network

Allison Arwady, MD Commissioner

Confirmed Case of Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in Chicago Resident

January 24, 2020

Summary and Action Items:

- A confirmed case of novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) has been detected in a hospitalized Chicago resident.
- Health care providers should continue to ask patients with respiratory symptoms and fever about any travel to Wuhan, China or any known contact with a person with 2019-nCoV.
- Suspect patients under investigation should be immediately placed in respiratory isolation and reported to the Chicago Department of Public Health by calling the reporting line at 312-746-SICK (7425) Monday through Friday during business hours, or call 311 after hours, weekends or holidays and ask to speak with the medical director on call.
- Public health will pursue contact tracing and investigation with any persons who may have had contact with the confirmed case.

Background: The Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) is working closely with the Illinois Department of Public Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and local health care providers on the outbreak caused by novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) including providing consultation related to patients of concern.

Symptoms and Exposures: Expected patient symptoms include fever, cough, and difficulty breathing. Current epidemiologic risks include a history of travel to Wuhan City, China or close contact with a person under investigation (PUI) for 2019-nCoV while that person was ill. Guidance on the criteria for persons under investigation, reporting forms, and diagnostic testing procedures can be found at <https://www.chicagohan.org/2019-ncov>.

Reporting: In the event of a PUI for 2019-nCoV, healthcare providers should immediately notify both infection control personnel at their health care facility and CDPH. A 2019-nCoV PUI form should be completed. Epidemiologic information to be gathered includes dates of travel to Wuhan, time spent in a healthcare facility in Wuhan City, China as a patient, worker, or visitor, member of a cluster of patients with severe acute respiratory illness (e.g., fever and pneumonia requiring hospitalization) of unknown etiology in which 2019-nCoV is being evaluated, comorbid conditions, symptoms and diagnostic testing completed.

Contact:

To report suspected PUI cases of 2019 novel coronavirus, please call the reporting line at 312-746-SICK (7425) Monday through Friday during business hours, or call 311 after hours, weekends or holidays and ask to speak with the medical director on call.

Resources:

<https://www.chicagohan.org/2019-ncov>