



Update 5 (13th of February 2020)

Information about Infection disease
COVID-19 (novel coronavirus)



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in Munich**

13th of February 2020

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Background about COVID-19 (novel coronavirus)

The outbreak of pneumonia of unknown ethology in China is further increasing.

A new science report informs that the genome sequence COVID-19 is in 96% the same genome sequence as a coronavirus from bats.

Further investigation are ongoing.

WHO confirmed that COVID-19 can be transmitted from person to person!

Human-to-human transmission has been demonstrated; several family clusters in China and outside China and cases among health-care workers have been reported. In addition, Chinese authorities presented evidence to the WHO Emergency Committee that sustained (4th generation) human-to-human transmission is documented in Wuhan and second-generation cases have been documented outside Wuhan.

Local Transmission:

Local transmission of COVID-19 outside of mainland China has been documented in France, Japan, Germany, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, the United Kingdom, the United States and Vietnam.

ECDC reported one confirmed locally acquired case of COVID-19 in Bavaria, Germany. The case had no travel history to Wuhan/China. A colleague visiting from Shanghai was confirmed to be infected with COVID-19 upon returning to China. Bavarian authorities have reported seven additional cases among employees at the same company.

France confirmed one case in a general practitioner following treatment of an individual who returned to Asia and subsequently tested positive for COVID-19. This is the first infection reported in a healthcare worker outside of mainland China.

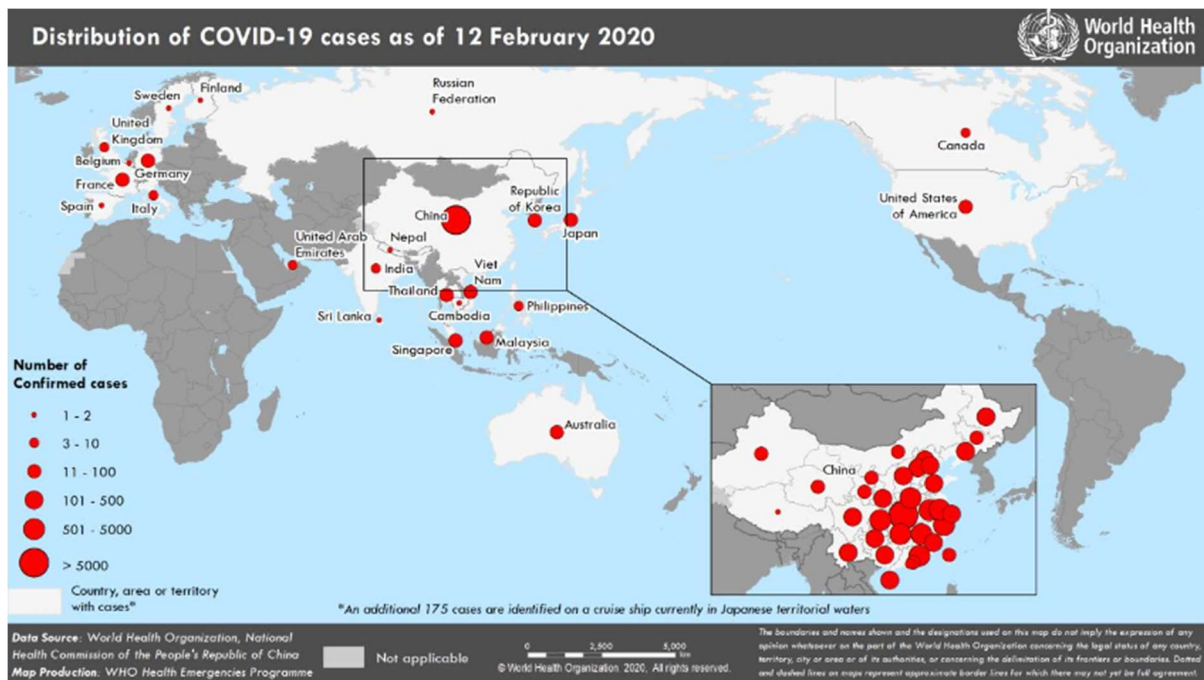
Thursday 30/01/2020 WHO declared „Global Health Emergency“

Situation:

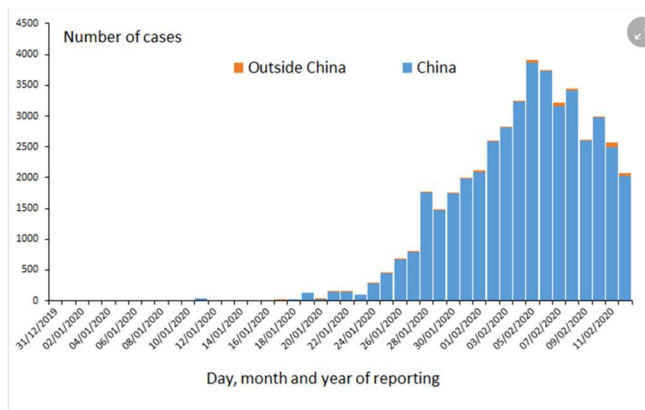
World wide 45.177 confirmed Cases (13th of February 2020)

Country	confirmed cases	death
China	44.730	1.112
Macao	10	-
Hongkong	49	1
Taiwan	18	-
Japan	28	-
Republic Korea	28	-
Vietnam	16	-
Thailand	33	-
USA	14	-
Australian	15	-
France	11	-
Canada	7	-
Sri Lanka	1	-
Germany	16	-
Cambodia	1	-
Singapore	50	-
United Arab Emirates	8	-
Finland	1	-
Malaysia	18	-
Nepal	1	-
India	3	-
Philippines	3	1
Italy	3	-
Russia	2	-
Spain	2	-
Sweden	1	-
Great Britain	9	-
Belgium	1	-

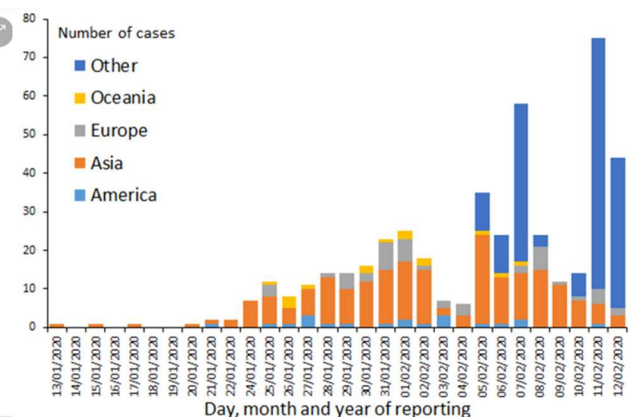
- China treats the disease as a highest priority infection, so the strictest prevention and control measures apply
- A few Cities in China are under quarantine
- As for other corona-virus infection no vaccine or specific treatment for COVID-19 infection is available; care is supportive
- Other vaccine like Influenza or Pneumococcus do not offer protection against the COVID-19
- A few Nations (USA, GBR, FRA, JPN and Germany) transferred citizens back home to their countries



WHO: Countries or areas with confirmed cases of COVID-19 12/02/2020



Distribution of laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19 worldwide; ECDC 12 February 2020



Distribution of laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19 by continent (expected China); ECDC 12 February 2020

The increase in the epicurve on 5 February 2020 is due to the confirmed cases on the cruise ship “Diamond Princess” off Yokohama. On the ship currently are 175 confirmed cases. The “Diamond Princess” is ongoing under quarantine.

The second cruise ship “World Dream Cruise” with 3.600 passengers in Hongkong is not longer in quarantine. All passengers are COVID-19 negative tested, they left the ship.

Clinician Information:

Healthcare providers should obtain detailed travel history for patients with following symptoms:

fever, coughing, sniffing, shortness of breath, respiratory rate more than 30 bpm, hypoxemia, and chest X-ray with multi-lobar infiltrates or pulmonary infiltration progressed more than 50% within 24 – 48 hours.

Scientific evidence has been found by various laboratories that the COVID-19 in the affected patients initially predominantly increases in the nasopharynx and only spread to the lungs later.

World Health organisation assumes a current incubation period range from 2-14 days. A transmission can also take place during this time.

Attention:

Not all respiratory symptoms are automatically COVID-19. At this time, illness like flu are normal. We have no higher rate of respiratory symptoms reported in EpiNATO-2 as normal to this season.

Conclusions about COVID-19 should and can only be drawn if a contagion by a novel coronavirus is probable, or the symptoms can be directly connected with a previous trip.

Area of Risk:

Travelers to China or from China to other countries should be aware of basic principles which reduce the general risk of transmission of acute respiratory infections include the following:

- avoiding unprotected contact with farm or wild animals (alive or dead)
- avoiding close contact animal markets
- avoiding close contact with people suffering from acute respiratory infections
- frequent hand-washing, especially after direct contact with ill people or their environment
- travellers with symptoms of acute respiratory infection should practice cough etiquette (maintain distance, cover coughs and sneezes with disposable tissues or clothing, and wash hands)
- no travel if you feel sick
- in case of upcoming fever or respiratory symptoms seek medical support
- Thoroughly cook meat and eggs
- Within healthcare facilities, enhance standard infection prevention and control practices in hospitals, especially in emergency departments

General measures and information:

Health authorities affected countries can instruct high preventive measure like control temperature at airports or public places, identify contact persons or isolate patients. As protection for travellers should be a frequent hand-washing, cover coughs and sneezes with disposable tissues or clothing and avoiding close contact with people suffering from acute respiratory infection.

Health measures related to international traffic:

The current outbreak originated in Wuhan city, which is a major domestic and international transport hub. Given the large population movements, and the overserved human to human transmission, it is not unexpected that new confirmed cases will continue to appear in other areas and countries. With the information currently available for the COVID-19, WHO advises that measures to limit the risk of exportation or importation of the disease should be implemented, without unnecessary restriction of international traffic.

WHO does not recommend any specific health measures for travellers. In case of symptoms suggestive of respiratory illness either during or after travel, travellers are encouraged to seek medical attention and share their travel history with their healthcare provider.

Technical focus: Establishing global/regional coordination and technical guidance

WHO is working with partners to strengthen global diagnostic capacity for COVID-19 detection to improve surveillance and track the spread of disease. Public health efforts to control the spread of disease in countries with imported cases depend critically on the ability to detect the pathogen quickly. WHO and partners have activated a network of specialized referral laboratories with demonstrated expertise in the molecular detection of coronaviruses. These international labs can support national labs to confirm new cases and troubleshoot their molecular assays. Currently, there are 15 laboratories (**Attachment referral laboratories**) have been identified to provide reference testing support for COVID-19.

Please find some information and technical guidance: Laboratory testing for COVID-19 in humans under

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance/laboratory-guidance>

References:

- Centres for Disease Control and Prevention CDC; www.cdc.gov
- World Health Organization WHO; www.who.int
- European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control www.ecdc.europe.eu
- Robert-Koch-Institut www.rki.de