2020 *Tarrant County Public Health*
Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

WHAT IS A CORONAVIRUS?

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses. Common human coronaviruses can cause mild to moderate upper-respiratory tract illnesses, such as the common cold. There have been coronaviruses that have caused more severe illness, such as severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS).

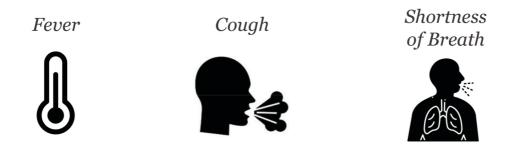## NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (2019-nCoV)

A new coronavirus emerged in Wuhan, China, in December of 2019 and is currently referred to as the 2019 Novel Coronavirus, or 2019-nCoV. There are now cases of 2019-nCoV reported in the United States.

At this time, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),
the risk to the general public is considered to be LOW.

SYMPTOMS

Patients with confirmed 2019-nCoV infection have reportedly had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms. However, there have been deaths from 2019-nCoV infection. CDC believes at this time that symptoms of 2019-nCoV may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 after exposure.

The following are typical symptoms of 2019-nCoV:

Fever

Cough

Shortness of Breath

PREVENTION & PROTECTION

There is currently no vaccine or specific treatments at this time for the 2019-nCoV. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to this virus.

As a reminder, HCPH always recommends everyday preventive actions to help avoid the spread of respiratory viruses, including:

- *Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.*
- *Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands*
- *Avoid close contact with people who are sick*

- *Stay home while you are sick*
- *Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, and then throw the tissue in the trash.*
- *Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces*

RECENT TRAVEL

If you traveled to China **in the last 14 days** and feel sick with fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, you should take the above precautionary measures and:

- *Contact your healthcare provider right away. Before you go to a doctor's office or emergency room, **call ahead** and tell them about your recent travel and your symptoms.*
- *Avoid contact with others.*

If you have recently traveled to where the virus has been confirmed (and/or have been in contact with someone who has) and now feel sick, **contact your <u>healthcare provider</u> or your <u>local health department</u> immediately.**

FUTURE INFORMATION

As things change with this disease, stay tuned for additional information from credible sources and remember to get your flu shot every year.

More information about Coronavirus

Tarrant County Public Health
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