

1. Consider novel coronavirus 2019 infection in patients with respiratory symptoms and travel to Hubei Province in the 14 days before illness onset.
2. Patients may call you for advice. Ask them about symptoms and travel.
3. If patients report respiratory symptoms within 14 days of travel to Hubei Province, call your Public Health Unit (1300 066 055) to discuss the next steps.
4. People who have travelled to Hubei Province or had contact with a case must be isolated at home for 14 days from last contact or date of departure.

### Situation update:

- The majority of 2019-nCoV cases have been detected in mainland China, mainly in Wuhan in Hubei Province. Small numbers of cases have also been confirmed in several countries, and four in NSW.
- Infection can cause severe acute respiratory illnesses, but there is a spectrum of disease.

### Consider 2019-nCoV infection in people with:

- History of travel in Hubei Province in the 14 days before illness onset, **OR** Close contact with a confirmed case of 2019-nCoV, **AND**
- Acute respiratory infection (with at least one of the following symptoms: shortness of breath, cough or sore throat).

### For a patient who meets these criteria:

- Patients are encouraged to call their GP, Emergency Department or healthdirect for advice before attending. If a patient calls you:
  - Ask if they have travelled to Hubei Province and if they have a respiratory symptoms.
  - If they report travel to Hubei Province and symptoms, call your local public health unit to discuss referral to the Emergency Department.
- If a patient presents to you without calling:
  - Ask the patient to wear a surgical mask and move them to a separate room.
  - Use standard, contact and airborne transmission precautions, including a P2 (N95) mask, disposable gown, gloves, and eye protection if available, when entering the room.
  - Immediately contact your Public Health Unit (1300 066 055) who will arrange a phone risk assessment and advise on next steps. If further assessment and testing is recommended, this will generally be arranged at a hospital emergency department.
- General Practitioners **should not** take samples for 2019-nCoV testing themselves unless there is no alternative option.

### Advice to patients about home isolation

- People who have travelled to Hubei Province or had contact with a case must be isolated at home for 14 days from last contact or date of departure.
- These people should restrict activities outside the home, except for seeking medical care. They should not go to work, school, or public areas, and should not use public transportation or taxis until cleared by the public health unit.

### Further information:

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/diseases/Pages/novel-coronavirus-2019.aspx>



**Dr Christine Selvey**

A/Director, Communicable Diseases, Health Protection NSW

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