

## Information for General Practitioners

1. Consider novel coronavirus infection in patients with fever and respiratory symptoms and travel to Wuhan City, China in the 14 days before illness onset
2. Investigate and manage patient for respiratory illness. Collect upper respiratory tract viral swabs, or nasopharyngeal aspirate using standard and airborne transmission precautions
3. Contact your local Public Health Unit

### Current situation:

- China has reported a cluster of viral pneumonia with links to a large wholesale fish and live animal market in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. This market was closed on 1 January 2020.
- As of January 5, 2020 there have been 59 cases with pneumonia; the last case was reported to have developed symptoms on 29 December.
- No deaths have been reported.
- Reports indicate no evidence of human to human transmission.
- It is likely that the cause of this cluster is a novel coronavirus.

### Who is at risk:

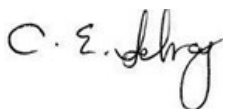
- A person with travel from Wuhan City, China in the 14 days before illness onset AND
- an illness fever and respiratory symptoms/signs, AND
- Not explained by any other infection or aetiology.

### For a patient who meets these criteria:

- Use standard, contact and airborne transmission precautions, including a P2 (N95) mask, disposable gown, gloves, and eye protection when entering a patient care area.
- Collect nasopharyngeal, nasal, and/or throat swabs
- Undertake testing for alternative causes as soon as possible, in particular for respiratory viruses using multiplex PCR if available;
- Patients with severe respiratory disease should be sent to hospital – please call ahead.
- Contact your local Public Health Unit promptly on **1300 066 055** for a joint risk assessment and to arrange urgent testing.

### More information

<https://www.who.int/china/news/detail/09-01-2020-who-statement-regarding-cluster-of-pneumonia-cases-in-wuhan-china>



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