



Date: February 3, 2020

To: All Medical Care Providers

From: Maggie Park, M.D., Interim Health Officer

**Please distribute to all
medical providers and other
relevant staff in your office.**

Health Alert Update

2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

Situation:

The number of confirmed 2019-nCoV cases continues to rise, with current totals of greater than 17,000 cases and greater than 360 deaths. One death has occurred outside of China, in the Philippines. In the U.S., there have been 11 cases in five states (MA, AZ, CA, IL and WA). Two of the cases have involved person-to-person spread; both of them were spouses of other confirmed cases. The cases in California have been in Los Angeles County, Orange County, San Benito and Santa Clara County. There continues to be no confirmed or suspected cases in San Joaquin County.

The World Health Organization has declared the outbreak a public health emergency of international concern, and the U.S. Health and Human Services declared it a public health emergency for the United States. On January 31, 2020, the White House 2019 Novel Coronavirus Task Force held a press conference to announce the implementation of new travel policies that went into effect on February 2, 2020:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/proclamation-suspension-entry-immigrants-nonimmigrants-persons-pose-risk-transmitting-2019-novel-coronavirus/>

CDC and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) are continuing to conduct health screenings of passengers who have been in Wuhan within the past 14 days at 7 designated U.S. airports. Since travel out of Wuhan has been shut down, the number of passengers who meet this criteria are dwindling.

For Health Care Providers:

CDC has updated guidance for healthcare professionals, and there are new criteria to use to determine if a patient should be evaluated for 2019-nCoV:

Criteria to Guide Evaluation of Patients under Investigation (PUI) for 2019-nCoV

Clinical Features	&	Epidemiologic Risk
Fever or signs/symptoms of lower respiratory illness (e.g. cough or shortness of breath)	AND	Any person, including health care workers, who has had close contact with a laboratory-confirmed 2019-nCoV patient within 14 days of symptom onset
Fever and signs/symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough or shortness of breath)	AND	A history of travel from Hubei Province, China ⁵ within 14 days of symptom onset
Fever and signs/symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough or shortness of breath) requiring hospitalization	AND	A history of travel from mainland China within 14 days of symptom onset

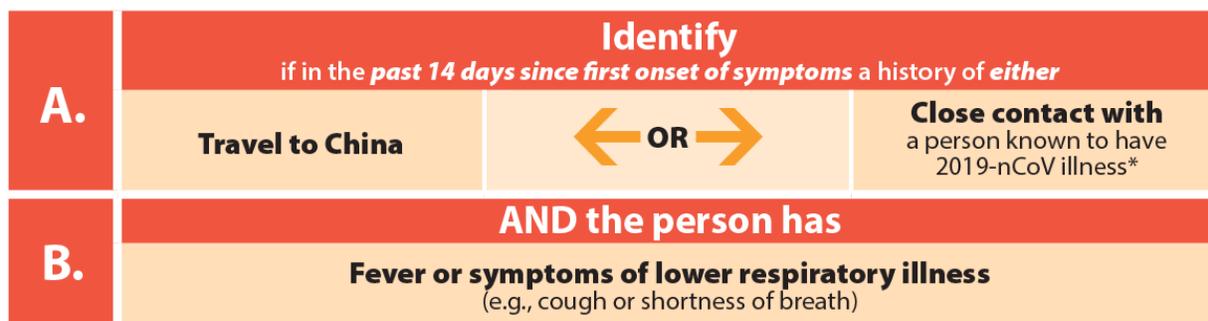
The criteria are intended to serve as guidance for evaluation. Patients should be evaluated and discussed with public health departments on a case-by-case basis if their clinical presentation or exposure history is equivocal (e.g., uncertain travel or exposure).

CDC has also developed a flowsheet to assist healthcare professionals with patient evaluation: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/identify-assess-flowchart.html>

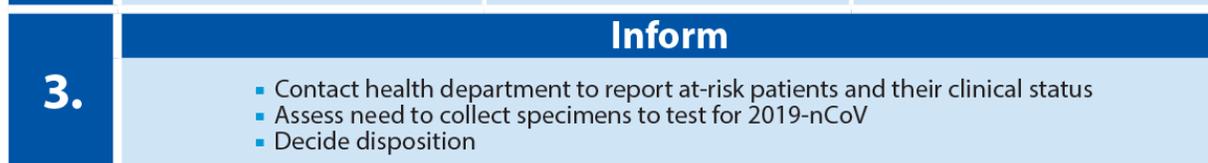
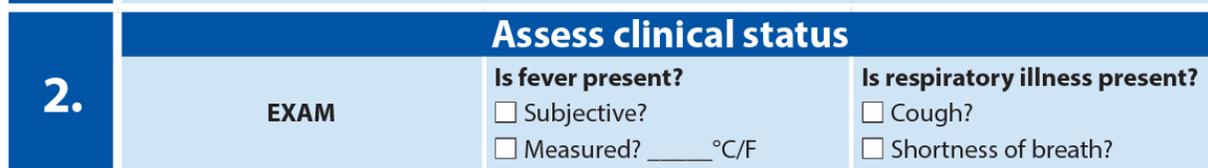
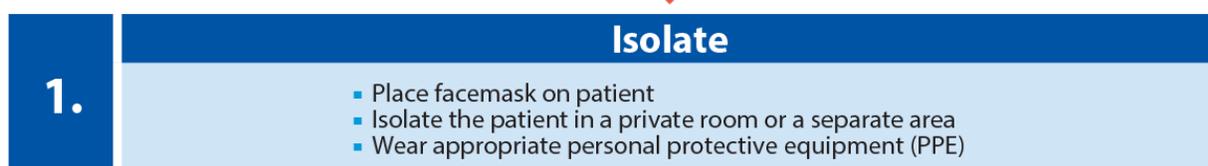
Immediately notify San Joaquin County Public Health Services of any suspected cases by calling (209) 468-3828. After hours and on weekends, call (209) 468-6000.

Flowchart to Identify and Assess 2019 Novel Coronavirus

For the evaluation of patients who may be ill with or who may have been exposed to 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)



if both exposure and illness are present



If discharged to home



* Documentation of laboratory-confirmation of 2019-nCoV may not be possible for travelers or persons caring for patients in other countries. For more clarification on the definition for close contact see CDC's Interim Guidance for Healthcare Professionals: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/clinical-criteria.html