

Information for Staff, Patients and Caregivers

How Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Spreads

When the coronavirus spreads person-to-person the Center for Disease Control (CDC) believes it happens mainly through droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes, similar to how the flu spreads.

Symptoms

For confirmed 2019-nCoV infections, the illness ranges from people being mildly sick to people being severely ill. Symptoms can include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

CDC believes at this time that symptoms of 2019-nCoV may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 days after exposure.

Prevention

There is currently no vaccine to prevent 2019-nCoV infection. CDC always recommends these actions to help prevent the spread of the virus, including:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw it in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.