## **Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)** Situation Report – 95



Data as received by WHO from national authorities by 10:00 CEST, 24 April 2020

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- WHO has published an interim guidance 'COVID-19 and Food Safety: Guidance for competent authorities responsible for national food safety control systems'.
   The guidance document provides advice and recommendations for national food safety authorities to optimize food control functions and prioritize critical services that preserve the integrity of food safety systems.
- WHO has published an interim guidance 'Water, sanitation, hygiene, and waste management for the COVID-19 virus'. This interim guidance is the second edition and supplements existing infection prevention and control documents by summarizing the latest evidence on COVID-19 in water supplies and sanitation. It highlights WHO guidance on water, sanitation, hand hygiene and health care waste which is relevant for viruses (including coronaviruses).
- WHO's <u>Health Security Learning Platform</u> offers a number of online courses to help enhance knowledge on specific issues related to the implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005). A new course, <u>"Operational considerations for managing COVID-19 cases/outbreak in aviation"</u>, is available and is the topic for today's 'Subject in Focus', below.

# SITUATION IN NUMBERS total (new cases in last 24 hours)

## **Globally**

2 626 321 confirmed (81 529) 181 938 deaths (6260)

## **European Region**

1 284 216 confirmed (32 758) 116 523 deaths (3187)

## **Region of the Americas**

995 510 confirmed (38 108) 50 583 deaths (2787)

## **Eastern Mediterranean Region**

149 295 confirmed (4845) 6608 deaths (139)

## **Western Pacific Region**

139 782 confirmed (1880) 5869 deaths (51)

## **South-East Asia Region**

38 572 confirmed (2533) 1554 deaths (56)

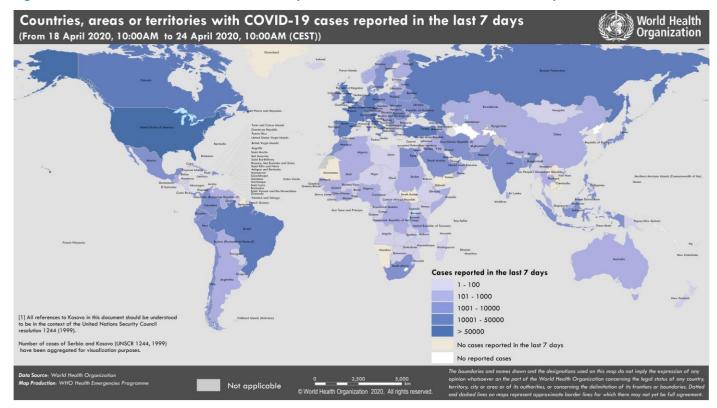
## **African Region**

18 234 confirmed (1405) 788 deaths (40)

## WHO RISK ASSESSMENT

Global Level Very High

Figure 1. Countries, territories or areas with reported confirmed cases of COVID-19, 24 April 2020



# SUBJECT IN FOCUS: New online course released on the management of COVID-19 in aviation

A new, interactive e-learning course titled "Operational considerations for managing COVID-19 cases/outbreak in aviation" has been developed based on the guidance document of the same name. It can be downloaded on personal computers and mobile phones and complements the COVID-19 at Points of Entry course "Management of ill travelers at points of entry in the context of the COVID-19 outbreak". It is intended for a range of audiences, including:

- National International Health Regulation (IHR) focal points;
- Airport health authorities;
- Local, provincial and national health surveillance and response systems;
- Civil aviation authorities;
- Airport operators;
- Aircraft operators;
- Airports;
- Airlines.



The course is easy to navigate and takes approximately one hour to complete. It is organized systematically with clearly identified chapters that highlight the main concepts and case definitions, management of suspected cases at airports and on-board aircraft, cleaning and disinfection, and other key topics.

There are six scenarios dispersed throughout the course that challenge the learner to respond appropriately to realistic situations. The course ends with a 15-question quiz that assesses the learner's comprehension of the material and provides a review of key points.

## **SURVEILLANCE**

Table 1. Countries, territories or areas with reported laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths. Data as of 24 April 2020\*

Reporting Country/ Territory/Area <sup>†</sup>	Total confirmed ‡ cases	Total confirmed new cases	Total deaths	Total new deaths	Transmission classification <sup>§</sup>	Days since last reported case
Western Pacific Region	า					
China	84311	9	4642	0	Clusters of cases	0
Japan	12388	469	317	30	Clusters of cases	0
Singapore	11178	1037	12	0	Clusters of cases	0
Republic of Korea	10708	6	240	0	Clusters of cases	0
Philippines	6981	271	462	16	Clusters of cases	0
Australia	6667	13	76	2	Clusters of cases	0
Malaysia	5603	71	95	2	Clusters of cases	0
New Zealand	1114	2	17	1	Clusters of cases	0
Viet Nam	268	0	0	0	Clusters of cases	7
Brunei Darussalam	138	0	1	0	Sporadic cases	4
Cambodia	122	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	12
Mongolia	35	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	1
Lao People's						
Democratic Republic	19	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	11
Fiji	18	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	3
Papua New Guinea	8	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	1
Territories**						
Guam	135	2	5	0	Clusters of cases	0
French Polynesia	57	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	2
New Caledonia	18	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	21
Northern Mariana Islands						
(Commonwealth of		_	_	_		_
the)	14	0	2	0	Pending	6
European Region	242024	4625	22457	140	D d'	
Spain	213024	4635	22157	440	Pending Community	0
Italy	189973	2646	25549	464	transmission	0
reary	103373	2010	233 13	101	Community	Ŭ
Germany	150383	2337	5321	227	transmission	0
					Community	
The United Kingdom	138082	4583	18738	638	transmission	0
					Community	
France	119583	1622	21823	516	transmission	0
Turkey	101700	2116	2404	145	Community	
Turkey	101790	3116	2491	115	transmission	0
Russian Federation	68622	5849	615	60	Clusters of cases	0
Belgium	42797	908	6490	228	Community transmission	0
Deigiani	72131	700	0430	220	Community	
Netherlands	35729	887	4177	123	transmission	0

	1		1	I		
Switzerland	28414	228	1267	51	Community transmission	0
	22353	371	820	35		0
Portugal	+		1		Pending	
Ireland	17607	936	794	25	Pending Community	0
Sweden	16755	751	2021	84	transmission	0
Austria	14985	61	508	14	Pending	0
Israel	14803	305	192	3	Pending	0
Poland	10511	342	454	28	Pending	0
roland	10311	342	434	20	Community	0
Romania	10096	386	527	19	transmission	0
Denmark	8073	161	394	10	Pending	0
Belarus	8022	741	60	0	Clusters of cases	0
20.0.00	3022	, . <u>-</u>			Community	
Ukraine	7647	477	193	6	transmission	0
Norway	7345	95	180	11	Pending	0
Serbia	7276	162	139	5	Pending	0
					Community	
Czechia	7188	52	213	3	transmission	0
Finland	4284	155	172	23	Pending	0
Luxembourg	3665	11	83	3	Pending	0
Republic of Moldova	2926	148	80	4	Pending	0
Greece	2463	55	125	4	Pending	0
Hungary	2383	99	250	25	Clusters of cases	0
Kazakhstan	2025	0	19	0	Pending	1
					Community	
Croatia	1981	31	50	2	transmission	0
					Community	
Iceland	1789	4	10	0	transmission	0
Uzbekistan	1778	62	7	0	Clusters of cases	0
Estonia	1592	33	45	1	Pending	0
Azerbaijan	1548	30	20	0	Clusters of cases	0
Armenia	1523	50	24	0	Clusters of cases	0
Bosnia and					Community	_
Herzegovina	1413	46	53	1	transmission	0
Lithuania	1410	12	40	2	Pending	0
Slovenia	1366	13	79	0	Community transmission	0
Slovakia	1325	81	15	1	Clusters of cases	0
North Macedonia	1300	41	56	0	Clusters of cases	0
	+					0
Bulgaria	1097	73	52	3	Pending	
Cyprus	795	5	17	0	Clusters of cases	0
Latvia	778	17	11	0	Pending Community	0
Andorra	726	2	38	1	transmission	0
Albania	678	44	28	1	Clusters of cases	0
	656	25	8	0	Pending	0
Kyrgyzstan	030	23	0	U	Community	U
San Marino	501	13	40	0	transmission	0
Malta	445	1	3	0	Pending	0

	1				Community	
Georgia	431	11	5	0	transmission	0
Montenegro	316	2	5	0	Clusters of cases	0
Liechtenstein	82	0	1	0	Pending	5
Monaco	68	0	1	0	Sporadic cases	10
Holy See	9	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	3
Territories**					Sporadio cases	<u> </u>
					Community	
Kosovo <sup>[1]</sup>	669	39	19	1	transmission	0
Isle of Man	307	0	16	6	Pending	2
Jersey	255	0	18	4	Pending	1
					Community	
Guernsey	243	2	10	0	transmission	0
Faroe Islands	187	2	0	0	Pending	0
Gibraltar	133	0	0	0	Clusters of cases	6
Greenland	11	0	0	0	Pending	18
South-East Asia Region		T			T	T
India	23077	1684	718	37	Clusters of cases	0
		257	6.47	4.2	Community	
Indonesia	7775	357	647	12	transmission	0
Bangladesh	4186	414	127	7	Pending	0
Thailand	2854	15	50	0	Pending	0
Sri Lanka	368	38	7	0	Clusters of cases	0
Myanmar	139	12	5	0	Clusters of cases	0
Maldives	94	9	0	0	Clusters of cases	0
Nepal	48	3	0	0	Sporadic cases	0
Timor-Leste	24	1	0	0	Clusters of cases	0
Bhutan	7	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	1
Eastern Mediterranean	Region	I			C	Ī
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	87026	1030	5481	90	Community transmission	0
Saudi Arabia	13930	1158	121	7	Clusters of cases	0
Pakistan	11155	642	237	13	Clusters of cases	0
United Arab Emirates	8756	518	56	4		0
					Pending	
Qatar	7764	623	10	0	Pending	0
Egypt	3891	232	287	11	Clusters of cases	0
Morocco	3568	122	155	6	Clusters of cases	0
Kuwait	2399	151	14	1	Clusters of cases	0
Bahrain	2217	190	8	1	Clusters of cases	0
Oman	1716	0	8	0	Clusters of cases	1
Iraq	1677	46	83	0	Clusters of cases	0
Afghanistan	1226	50	40	0	Clusters of cases	0
Djibouti	986	12	2	0	Clusters of cases	0
Tunisia	918	9	38	0	Community	0
	688	6		0	transmission Clusters of cases	
Lebanon		1	22		Clusters of cases	0
Jordan	437	2	7	0	Clusters of cases	0
Somalia	328	42	16	2	Sporadic cases	0
Sudan	174	12	16	3	Sporadic cases	0
Libya	60	0	2	1	Clusters of cases	1

					Community	
Syrian Arab Republic	42	0	3	0	transmission	2
Yemen	1	0	0	0	Pending	13
Territories**	ı		I	ı	T	T
occupied Palestinian	226		2			4
territory	336	0	2	0	Clusters of cases	1
Region of the Americas		T T	l	l	Compressible	Π
United States of America	830053	29127	42311	2238	Community transmission	0
America	830033	29127	42311	2230	Community	0
Brazil	45757	2678	2906	165	transmission	0
Druzii	43737	2070	2300	103	Community	
Canada	40813	1890	2028	157	transmission	0
					Community	
Peru	19250	1413	530	46	transmission	0
					Community	
Chile	11812	516	168	8	transmission	0
					Community	
Ecuador	11183	333	560	23	transmission	0
					Community	
Mexico	10544	1043	970	113	transmission	0
					Community	
Dominican Republic	5543	243	265	5	transmission	0
_					Community	
Panama	4992	171	144	3	transmission	0
Calanda	4256	207	206	40	Community	
Colombia	4356	207	206	10	transmission	0
Argentina	3340	143	159	7	Community transmission	0
		46		3		0
Cuba	1235		43		Clusters of cases	
Costa Rica	681	12	6	0	Clusters of cases	0
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	672	63	40	3	Clusters of cases	0
·	549	6	12	0	Clusters of cases	0
Uruguay				<u> </u>		
Honduras	519	9	47	1	Clusters of cases	0
Guatemala	342	26	10	2	Clusters of cases	0
Venezuela (Bolivarian	298	10	10	0	Clusters of cases	0
Republic of)		10	10		Clusters of cases	0
El Salvador	250	13	8	1	Clusters of cases	0
Jamaica	243	10	6	0	Clusters of cases	0
Daragua	242	_			Community	4
Paraguay	213	0	9	0	transmission	1
Trinidad and Tobago	115	0	8	0	Sporadic cases	1
Barbados	76	1	6	1	Clusters of cases	0
Bahamas	70	5	9	0	Clusters of cases	0
Guyana	67	0	7	0	Clusters of cases	1
Haiti	62	4	4	0	Clusters of cases	0
Antigua and Barbuda	24	0	3	0	Clusters of cases	1
Belize	18	0	2	0	Sporadic cases	9
Dominica	16	0	0	0	Clusters of cases	13
Grenada	15	1	0	0	Clusters of cases	0
Saint Kitts and Nevis	15	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	3
Saint Lucia	15	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	12
Juliit Lucia	1.0	U			Sporadic cases	14

Saint Vincent and the						
Grenadines	13	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	1
Nicaragua	10	0	2	0	Pending	2
Suriname	10	0	1	0	Sporadic cases	20
Territories**	10				portudio dases	
Puerto Rico	1416	118	48	0	Clusters of cases	0
Martinique	170	6	14	0	Clusters of cases	0
Guadeloupe	148	0	12	0	Clusters of cases	4
French Guiana	107	10	1	0	Clusters of cases	0
Aruba	100	0	2	0	Clusters of cases	1
Bermuda	99	1	5	0	Clusters of cases	0
Sint Maarten	73	2	12	1	Clusters of cases	0
Cayman Islands	66	0	1	0	Clusters of cases	2
United States Virgin	00		-		Clusters or cuses	
Islands	54	0	3	0	Clusters of cases	2
Saint Martin	38	0	2	0	Sporadic cases	1
Curaçao	14	0	1	0	Sporadic cases	15
Falkland Islands					,	
(Malvinas)	12	0	0	0	Clusters of cases	1
Montserrat	11	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	10
Turks and Caicos						
Islands	11	0	1	0	Sporadic cases	7
Saint Barthélemy	6	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	24
Bonaire, Sint Eustatius	_				C I'	
and Saba	5	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	6
British Virgin Islands	5	1	1	0	Sporadic cases	0
Anguilla Saint Pierre and	3	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	20
Miquelon	1	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	16
African Region	1	0			Sporadic cases	10
7 arrican region					Community	
South Africa	3953	318	75	10	transmission	0
					Community	
Algeria	3007	97	407	5	transmission	0
Cameroon	1401	238	49	6	Clusters of cases	0
Ghana	1154	0	9	0	Clusters of cases	1
Côte d'Ivoire	1004	52	14	0	Clusters of cases	0
					Community	
Nigeria	981	440	31	12	transmission	0
Cuinas	963	101	6		Community	0
Guinea	862	101 9	6	0 2	transmission	0
Niger	671	9	24	2	Clusters of cases Community	U
Burkina Faso	600	0	38	0	transmission	1
Senegal	479	37	6	0	Clusters of cases	0
Democratic Republic	.,,5	<u> </u>			2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2	
of the Congo	394	35	25	0	Clusters of cases	0
					Community	
Mauritius	331	2	9	0	transmission	0
Kenya	320	17	14	0	Clusters of cases	0
Mali	309	16	21	4	Clusters of cases	0

United Republic of						
Tanzania	285	0	10	0	Clusters of cases	1
Congo	186	0	6	0	Clusters of cases	1
Gabon	166	0	2	1	Clusters of cases	1
Rwanda	154	1	0	0	Clusters of cases	0
Madagascar	121	0	0	0	Clusters of cases	4
Ethiopia	116	0	3	0	Clusters of cases	1
Liberia	101	0	8	0	Clusters of cases	2
Togo	88	0	6	0	Clusters of cases	1
Equatorial Guinea	84	0	1	0	Clusters of cases	1
Zambia	76	2	3	0	Sporadic cases	0
Cabo Verde	67	0	1	0	Sporadic cases	2
Sierra Leone	64	3	1	0	Clusters of cases	0
Uganda	63	2	0	0	Sporadic cases	0
Benin	58	4	1	0	Sporadic cases	0
Guinea-Bissau	52	2	0	0	Sporadic cases	0
Mozambique	41	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	1
Eritrea	39	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	5
Chad	34	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	2
Malawi	33	10	3	0	Sporadic cases	0
Eswatini	31	0	1	0	Sporadic cases	1
Zimbabwe	28	0	4	0	Sporadic cases	2
Angola	25	1	2	0	Sporadic cases	0
Botswana	22	0	1	0	Sporadic cases	1
Central African						
Republic	16	2	0	0	Sporadic cases	0
Namibia	16	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	18
Burundi	11	0	1	0	Sporadic cases	2
Seychelles	11	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	17
Gambia	10	0	1	0	Sporadic cases	3
São Tomé and						
Príncipe	8	1	0	0	Sporadic cases	0
Mauritania	7	0	1	0	Sporadic cases	13
South Sudan	4	0	0	0	Sporadic cases	12
Territories**	<u> </u>		T	T		T
Réunion	412	2	0	0	Clusters of cases	0
Mayotte	339	13	4	0	Clusters of cases	0
Subtotal for all	2625609	81529	181925	6260		
Regions International						
conveyance (Diamond	712	0	13	0	Not Applicable <sup>††</sup>	39
Princess)	2626224	04520	404020	C250 -		
Grand total	2626321	81529	181938	6260		

<sup>\*</sup>Numbers include both domestic and repatriated cases

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup>The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of WHO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement. <sup>‡</sup>Case classifications are based on WHO case definitions for COVID-19.

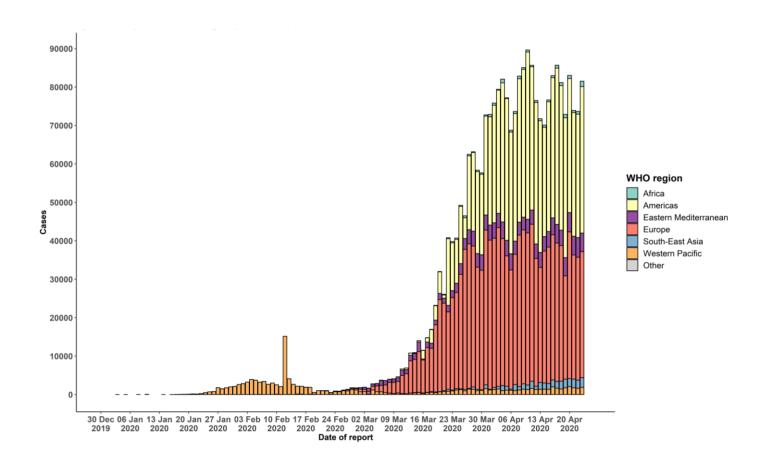
<sup>§</sup>Transmission classification is based on a process of country/territory/area self-reporting. Classifications are reviewed on a weekly basis and may be upgraded or downgraded as new information becomes available. Not all locations within a given country/territory/area are equally affected; countries/territories/areas experiencing multiple types of transmission are classified in the highest category reported. Within a given transmission category, different countries/territories/areas may have differing degrees of transmission as indicated by the differing numbers of cases, recency of cases, and other factors.

#### Terms:

- No cases: Countries/territories/areas with no confirmed cases (not shown in table)
- Sporadic cases: Countries/territories/areas with one or more cases, imported or locally detected
- Clusters of cases: Countries/territories/areas experiencing cases, clustered in time, geographic location and/or by common exposures
- **Community transmission**: Countries/area/territories experiencing larger outbreaks of local transmission defined through an assessment of factors including, but not limited to:
  - Large numbers of cases not linkable to transmission chains
  - Large numbers of cases from sentinel lab surveillance
  - Multiple unrelated clusters in several areas of the country/territory/area
- \*\* "Territories" include territories, areas, overseas dependencies and other jurisdictions of similar status
- [1] All references to Kosovo should be understood to be in the context of the United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).
- ++ As the international conveyance (Diamond Princess) is no longer occupied, transmission classification cannot be applied.

Due to differences in reporting methods, retrospective data consolidation, and reporting delays, the number of new cases may not always reflect the exact difference between yesterday's and today's totals. WHO COVID-19 Situation Reports present official counts of confirmed COVID-19 cases, thus differences between WHO reports and other sources of COVID-19 data using different inclusion criteria and different data cutoff times are to be expected.

Figure 4. Epidemic curve of confirmed COVID-19, by date of report and WHO region through 24 April 2020



#### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

WHO's strategic objectives for this response are to:

- Interrupt human-to-human transmission including reducing secondary infections among close contacts and health care workers, preventing transmission amplification events, and preventing further international spread\*;
- Identify, isolate and care for patients early, including providing optimized care for infected patients;
- Identify and reduce transmission from the animal source;
- Address crucial unknowns regarding clinical severity, extent of transmission and infection, treatment
  options, and accelerate the development of diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines;
- Communicate critical risk and event information to all communities and counter misinformation;
- Minimize social and economic impact through multisectoral partnerships.

\*This can be achieved through a combination of public health measures, such as rapid identification, diagnosis and management of the cases, identification and follow up of the contacts, infection prevention and control in health care settings, implementation of health measures for travelers, awareness-raising in the population and risk communication.

## PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

- To view all technical guidance documents regarding COVID-19, please go to this webpage.
- WHO has developed interim guidance for laboratory diagnosis, advice on the use of masks during home care and in health care settings in the context of COVID-19 outbreak, clinical management, infection prevention and control in health care settings, home care for patients with suspected novel coronavirus, risk communication and community engagement and Global Surveillance for human infection with COVID-19.
- WHO is working closely with International Air Transport Association (IATA) and have jointly developed a guidance document to provide advice to cabin crew and airport workers, based on country queries. The guidance can be found on the IATA webpage.
- WHO has been in regular and direct contact with Member States where cases have been reported. WHO is also informing other countries about the situation and providing support as requested.
- WHO is working with its networks of researchers and other experts to coordinate global work on surveillance, epidemiology, mathematical modelling, diagnostics and virology, clinical care and treatment, infection prevention and control, and risk communication. WHO has issued interim guidance for countries, which are updated regularly.
- WHO has prepared a <u>disease commodity package</u> that includes an essential list of biomedical equipment, medicines and supplies necessary to care for patients with COVID-19.
- WHO has provided recommendations to reduce risk of transmission from animals to humans.
- WHO has published an updated recommendations for international traffic in relation to COVID-19 outbreak.
- WHO has activated the R&D blueprint to accelerate diagnostics, vaccines, and therapeutics.
- OpenWHO is an interactive, web-based, knowledge-transfer platform offering online courses to improve the
  response to health emergencies. <u>COVID-19 courses can be found here</u> and courses in <u>additional national</u>
  <u>languages here</u>. Specifically, WHO has developed online courses on the following topics:
  - Introduction to Go.Data Field data collection, chains of transmission and contact follow-up. The Go.Data tool is available globally to WHO staff, member states and partners to support outbreak investigation, focusing on field data collection, contact tracing and visualisation of chains of transmission.

- A general introduction to emerging respiratory viruses, including novel coronaviruses (available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish, Hindi, Indian Sign Language, Persian, Portuguese, Serbian and Turkish);
- Clinical care for Severe Acute Respiratory Infections (available in English, French, Russian, Indonesian and Vietnamese);
- Health and safety briefing for respiratory diseases ePROTECT (available in Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish, Indonesian and Portuguese);
- Infection Prevention and Control for Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) (available in Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese and Serbian); and
- o COVID-19 Operational Planning Guidelines and COVID-19 Partners Platform to support country preparedness and response (available in English and coming soon in additional languages).
- WHO is providing guidance on early investigations, which are critical in an outbreak of a new virus. The data collected from the protocols can be used to refine recommendations for surveillance and case definitions, to characterize the key epidemiological transmission features of COVID-19, help understand spread, severity, spectrum of disease, impact on the community and to inform operational models for implementation of countermeasures such as case isolation, contact tracing and isolation. Several protocols are available <a href="here">here</a>. One such protocol is for the investigation of early COVID-19 cases and contacts (the "First Few X (FFX) Cases and contact investigation protocol for 2019-novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) infection"). The protocol is designed to gain an early understanding of the key clinical, epidemiological and virological characteristics of the first cases of COVID-19 infection detected in any individual country, to inform the development and updating of public health guidance to manage cases and reduce the potential spread and impact of infection.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS AND ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC**

If you are not in an area where COVID-19 is spreading or have not travelled from an area where COVID-19 is spreading or have not been in contact with an infected patient, your risk of infection is low. It is understandable that you may feel anxious about the outbreak. Get the facts from reliable sources to help you accurately determine your risks so that you can take reasonable precautions (see <a href="Frequently Asked Questions">Frequently Asked Questions</a>). Seek guidance from WHO, your healthcare provider, your national public health authority or your employer for accurate information on COVID-19 and whether COVID-19 is circulating where you live. It is important to be informed of the situation and take appropriate measures to protect yourself and your family (see Protection measures for everyone).

If you are in an area where there are cases of COVID-19 you need to take the risk of infection seriously. Follow the advice of WHO and guidance issued by national and local health authorities. For most people, COVID-19 infection will cause mild illness however, it can make some people very ill and, in some people, it can be fatal. Older people, and those with pre-existing medical conditions (such as cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory disease or diabetes) are at risk for severe disease (See <u>Protection measures for persons who are in or have recently visited (past 14 days) areas where COVID-19 is spreading</u>).

## **CASE DEFINITIONS**

WHO periodically updates the <u>Global Surveillance for human infection with coronavirus disease (COVID-19)</u> document which includes case definitions.

For easy reference, case definitions are included below.

## Suspect case

A. A patient with acute respiratory illness (fever and at least one sign/symptom of respiratory disease, e.g., cough, shortness of breath), AND a history of travel to or residence in a location reporting community transmission of

COVID-19 disease during the 14 days prior to symptom onset.

OR

B. A patient with any acute respiratory illness AND having been in contact with a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case (see definition of contact) in the last 14 days prior to symptom onset;

OR

C. A patient with severe acute respiratory illness (fever and at least one sign/symptom of respiratory disease, e.g., cough, shortness of breath; AND requiring hospitalization) AND in the absence of an alternative diagnosis that fully explains the clinical presentation.

## **Probable case**

- A. A suspect case for whom testing for the COVID-19 virus is inconclusive.
  - a. Inconclusive being the result of the test reported by the laboratory.

OR

B. A suspect case for whom testing could not be performed for any reason.

## **Confirmed case**

A person with laboratory confirmation of COVID-19 infection, irrespective of clinical signs and symptoms.

Technical guidance for laboratory testing can be found <u>here</u>.

## **Definition of contact**

A contact is a person who experienced any one of the following exposures during the 2 days before and the 14 days after the onset of symptoms of a probable or confirmed case:

- 1. Face-to-face contact with a probable or confirmed case within 1 meter and for more than 15 minutes;
- 2. Direct physical contact with a probable or confirmed case;
- 3. Direct care for a patient with probable or confirmed COVID-19 disease without using proper personal protective equipment<sup>1</sup>; OR
- 4. Other situations as indicated by local risk assessments.

Note: for confirmed asymptomatic cases, the period of contact is measured as the 2 days before through the 14 days after the date on which the sample was taken which led to confirmation.

### **Definition of COVID-19 death**

COVID-19 death is defined for surveillance purposes as a death resulting from a clinically compatible illness in a probable or confirmed COVID-19 case, unless there is a clear alternative cause of death that cannot be related to COVID disease (e.g. trauma). There should be no period of complete recovery between the illness and death.

Further guidance for certification and classification (coding) of COVID-19 as cause of death is available here.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> World Health Organization. Infection prevention and control during health care when COVID-19 is suspected <a href="https://www.who.int/publications-detail/infection-prevention-and-control-during-health-care-when-novel-coronavirus-(ncov)-infection-is-suspected-20200125</a>