Agency Advisory 01-2020
Coronavirus disease (COVID-19)
(formally novel coronavirus 2019-nCoV)

Wednesday 12 February 2020 16:00 Hours (New Information since previous advisory will be added in bold red)
This advisory has been authorised by the PHEOC Coordinator, Dr Paul Armstrong

Agencies and stakeholders – current situation

International
- The World Health Organization has officially named the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) as COVID-19
- Total confirmed global cases at 11:30 AWST Wednesday 12 February 2020 is 45,119.
- Total confirmed deaths internationally at 11:30 AWST Wednesday 12 February 2020 is 1,115.
- On 30 January 2020, the WHO International Health Regulations Emergency Committee declared the outbreak of COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC).
- As of 9 February 2020, the Australian Government has helped 532 Australians to safely return from Wuhan to Australia on two Qantas flights and a New Zealand flight. These people are now in quarantine on Christmas Island or at the Howard Springs Accommodation Facility on the outskirts of Darwin. After 14 days of quarantine, and once they are medically cleared, they will return to their homes in Australia.

National
- According to the most recent National Incident Room (NIR) Situation Report, dated 11 February 2020, 15 confirmed cases have been detected in Australia: four cases from NSW, five cases from QLD, two cases from SA, and four cases from VIC. All but three cases had a travel history associated with Wuhan city. The remaining cases were linked to cases with confirmed travel to Wuhan city.
- The advice of the DFAT for travel to mainland China is 'level 4 – do not travel'. The following travel restrictions are in place for people entering Australia having left mainland China on or after 1 February 2020:
  - foreign nationals (excluding permanent residents of Australia) will not be allowed to enter Australia until 14 days after they have left or transited through mainland China (excluding Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan)
  - Australian citizens, permanent residents and their immediate family will still be able to enter Australia, as will airline crews who have been using appropriate personal protective equipment
  - all travellers who have left or transited through mainland China (excluding Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan) on or after 1 February 2020 must isolate themselves until 14 days after leaving China.
State

- To date, there have been no cases of COVID-19 identified in Western Australia.
- As of 12:00 AWST 12 February 2020, a total of 78 people have returned a negative test result.
- As of 29 January 2020, ‘Human coronavirus with pandemic potential’ has been declared an urgently notifiable disease under Part 9 of the *Public Health Act 2016*.
- Since February, biosecurity officers from the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, with the support of WA Health staff, have been meeting all passengers arriving in Australian airports who have travelled to mainland China in the past 14 days, undertaking assessment and providing information on isolation as appropriate.

Current Self-Isolation Guidance

Self-isolation is recommended in the following circumstances:

- if individuals have travelled from Hubei Province within the past 14 days, they must self-isolate until 14 days have elapsed after leaving Hubei Province
- if individuals have left, or transited through, mainland China on or after 1 February 2020 they must self-isolate until 14 days after leaving China
- if individuals have been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19, they must self-isolate for 14 days after last contact with the confirmed case.

Self-isolation is not recommended in the following circumstances:

- if individuals have travelled from other provinces (other than Hubei province) in mainland China prior to 1 February 2020
- if individuals have only travelled in Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan.

For further information please visit the ‘suspected cases, close contacts and home isolation’ section at: [health.wa.gov.au/coronavirus](http://health.wa.gov.au/coronavirus)

More information

National Coronavirus Health Information Line: 1800 020 080

Website information:

- Resources for employers, schools and higher education, health, aged care, childcare, transport, travel and hotel sectors are available at the following websites:

Next advice

- The next agency advisory will be issued on Tuesday 18 February 2020.

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with disability.

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