

What is a coronavirus?

- Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that are known to cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).
- A novel, or new, coronavirus is called nCoV
- The current new coronavirus is called 2019-nCoV

What are the symptoms of Coronavirus?

- The most common symptoms are fever, cough, shortness of breath, and breathing difficulties.
- In more severe cases infection can cause pneumonia, severe acute respiratory syndrome, and even death. The period within which the symptoms would appear is 2-14 days.



Where do coronaviruses come from?

- Coronaviruses cause disease in a wide variety of animal species
- Several known coronaviruses are circulating in animals that have not yet infected humans
- A spillover event is when a virus that is circulating in an animal species is found to have been transmitted to human(s)

How can I protect myself from infection?

- Wash your hands with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue, sleeve or a flexed elbow when coughing or sneezing
- Avoid unprotected close contact with anyone developing cold or flu-like symptoms
- Seek medical care if you have a fever, cough, and/or difficulty breathing
- When visiting live markets, avoid direct unprotected contact with live animals and surfaces in contact with animals
- Cook your food and especially meat thoroughly
- Seek medical care if you have a fever, cough, and difficulty breathing; please reveal your travel or contact history

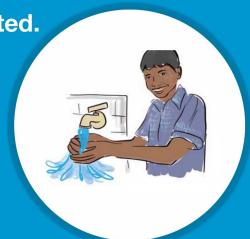


Is there treatment?

- As of yet, there are no specific treatments for coronaviruses, but symptoms can be treated.

Are antibiotics effective in preventing and treating 2019-nCoV?

- No, antibiotics do not work against viruses. The 2019-nCoV is a virus and, therefore, antibiotics should not be used as a means of prevention or treatment.



Does 2019-nCoV only affect older people, or are younger people also susceptible?

- People of all ages can be infected by the virus. Older people and those with pre-existing medical conditions appear to be more vulnerable to becoming severely ill with the virus



Can pets at home spread the 2019-nCoV?

- At present, there is no evidence that companion animals/pets such as dogs or cats can be infected with the virus. However, it is always a good idea to wash your hands with soap and water after contact with pets.

