



# Novel Coronavirus Information for Travellers Arriving in Australia from mainland China

The Australian Government Department of Health is aware of cases of a novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) associated with mainland China, particularly the Hubei Province.

## What is coronavirus?

Coronaviruses can make humans and animals sick. Some can cause illnesses similar to the common cold and others cause more serious illnesses, including severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS).

## What is novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)?

There is a new coronavirus primarily affecting people who have recently been in mainland China, particularly the Hubei Province.

It's likely that the coronavirus originally came from an animal, and there is now evidence that it can spread from person-to-person. There have been cases of 2019-nCoV reported in some other countries.

## What are the symptoms of 2019-nCoV?

Symptoms include (but are not limited to) fever, cough, sore throat, fatigue, and shortness of breath. Difficulty breathing is a sign of possible pneumonia and requires immediate medical attention.

It can take up to 14 days for symptoms to show after a person has been infected. You should monitor yourself for symptoms closely for 14 days after entering Australia.

## What do I do if I am sick right now?

If you have fever, sweats, chills or shortness of breath please let a biosecurity officer at the airport know now.

## What do I do if I get sick while in Australia?

If you develop mild symptoms:

- Isolate yourself from other people and put on a mask if you have one;
- Call a doctor or hospital and tell them your recent travel history; and
- When you get to the doctor's clinic or hospital, tell them again of your recent travel history.

If you have serious symptoms such as difficulty breathing:

- Call 000 and ask for an ambulance and notify the officers of your recent travel history.

Practicing good hand and sneeze/cough hygiene is the best defence against most viruses. You should:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water;
- Use good cough etiquette – cover your cough or sneeze and wash your hands afterwards; and
- Avoid close contact with others (including touching, kissing, hugging, and intimate contact).

## Where can I get more information about 2019-nCoV?

Visit the Australian Government Department of Health's website at [www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au)

Call the Public Health Information Line on 1800 004 599.