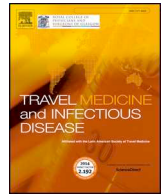




Since January 2020 Elsevier has created a COVID-19 resource centre with free information in English and Mandarin on the novel coronavirus COVID-19. The COVID-19 resource centre is hosted on Elsevier Connect, the company's public news and information website.

Elsevier hereby grants permission to make all its COVID-19-related research that is available on the COVID-19 resource centre - including this research content - immediately available in PubMed Central and other publicly funded repositories, such as the WHO COVID database with rights for unrestricted research re-use and analyses in any form or by any means with acknowledgement of the original source. These permissions are granted for free by Elsevier for as long as the COVID-19 resource centre remains active.



Maps, masks and media – Traveller and practitioner resources for 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) acute respiratory virus



Jane Chiodini

Amersham Vale Practice, London, UK

What a difference a month makes! On December 31, 2019, the World Health Organization (WHO) was informed of a cluster of cases of pneumonia of unknown cause detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. A novel coronavirus was identified as the cause and was named Coronavirus (2019-nCoV). The World Health Organization publishes a daily situation report at <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports/>. This report is very concise and provides a global map of the countries, territories or areas with reported confirmed cases of 2019-nCoV and a surveillance table of the numbers within each location.

Other useful information is included each day, for example on 29th January in Situation Report no. 9 details were provided of the WHO's published travel advice for international traffic, found at https://www.who.int/ith/2019-nCoV_advice_for_international_traffic/en/ For Situation Report no. 10 published 30th January, it was recommended that the interim name of the disease causing the current outbreak

should be “2019-nCoV acute respiratory disease” (where ‘n’ is for novel and ‘CoV’ is for coronavirus).

Of course by the time you read this, the situation will have changed dramatically, such is the speed of the rapidly changing picture of this outbreak. On 30th January the WHO convened the second International Health Regulations (IHR) Emergency Committee on novel coronavirus in China. Full details can be viewed at [https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/30-01-2020-statement-on-the-second-meeting-of-the-international-health-regulations-\(2005\)-emergency-committee-regarding-the-outbreak-of-novel-coronavirus-\(2019-ncov\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/30-01-2020-statement-on-the-second-meeting-of-the-international-health-regulations-(2005)-emergency-committee-regarding-the-outbreak-of-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov)) Press briefings are also provided in audio format along with transcripts which make for interesting listening at <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/media-resources#>

A key and very helpful page of resources from the WHO can be found at <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019> This provides advice on protecting yourself, travel advice, myth-busters,

E-mail address: jane.chiodini@nhs.net.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tmaid.2020.101574>

Received 4 February 2020; Accepted 4 February 2020

Available online 07 February 2020


1477-8939/ © 2020 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

situation reports and technical guidance. It is suggested users visit it daily. The mythbusters provide infographics providing answers which the images below portray. The graphics are downloadable and can be shared from <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/myth-busters>.

Similarly advice for the general public in the form of graphic posters are available at <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public> These eye catching and simply presented messages would serve a travelling public well in any travel clinic waiting area.

Can pets at home spread the new coronavirus (2019-nCoV)?

At present, there is **no evidence** that companion animals / pets such as dogs or cats can be infected with the new coronavirus. However, it is always a good idea to **wash your hands with soap and water after contact with pets**. This protects you against various common bacteria such as E. coli and Salmonella that can pass between pets and humans.



World Health Organization #Coronavirus

Does the new coronavirus affect older people, or are younger people also susceptible?


People of all ages can be infected by the new coronavirus (nCoV-2019). Older people, and people with pre-existing medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease) appear to be more vulnerable to becoming severely ill with the virus. WHO advise people of all age to take steps to protect themselves from the virus, for example by following good hand hygiene and good respiratory hygiene.



World Health Organization #Coronavirus

Are antibiotics effective in preventing and treating the new coronavirus?

No, antibiotics do not work against viruses, only bacteria. The new coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is a virus and, therefore, antibiotics should not be used as a means of prevention or treatment. However, if you are hospitalized for the 2019-nCoV, you may receive antibiotics since bacterial co-infection is possible.



World Health Organization #Coronavirus

Are there any specific medicines to prevent or treat the new coronavirus?

To date, there is **no specific medicine recommended** to prevent or treat the new coronavirus (2019-nCoV). However, those infected with the virus should receive appropriate care to relieve and treat symptoms, and those with severe illness should receive optimized supportive care. Some specific treatments are under investigation, and will be tested through clinical trials. WHO is helping to accelerate research and development efforts with a range of partners.



World Health Organization #Coronavirus

Wash your hands

Wash your hands with soap and running water when **hands are visibly dirty**



If your **hands are not visibly dirty**, frequently clean them by using alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water



World Health Organization

Protect yourself and others from getting sick

Wash your hands

- after coughing or sneezing
- when caring for the sick
- before, during and after you prepare food
- before eating
- after toilet use
- when hands are visibly dirty
- after handling animals or animal waste



World Health Organization

Protect others from getting sick

When coughing and sneezing **cover mouth and nose** with flexed elbow or tissue



Throw tissue into closed bin immediately after use



Clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water after coughing or sneezing and when caring for the sick



World Health Organization

Protect others from getting sick

Avoid close contact when you are experiencing cough and fever



Avoid spitting in public



If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing **seek medical care early** and share previous travel history with your health care provider

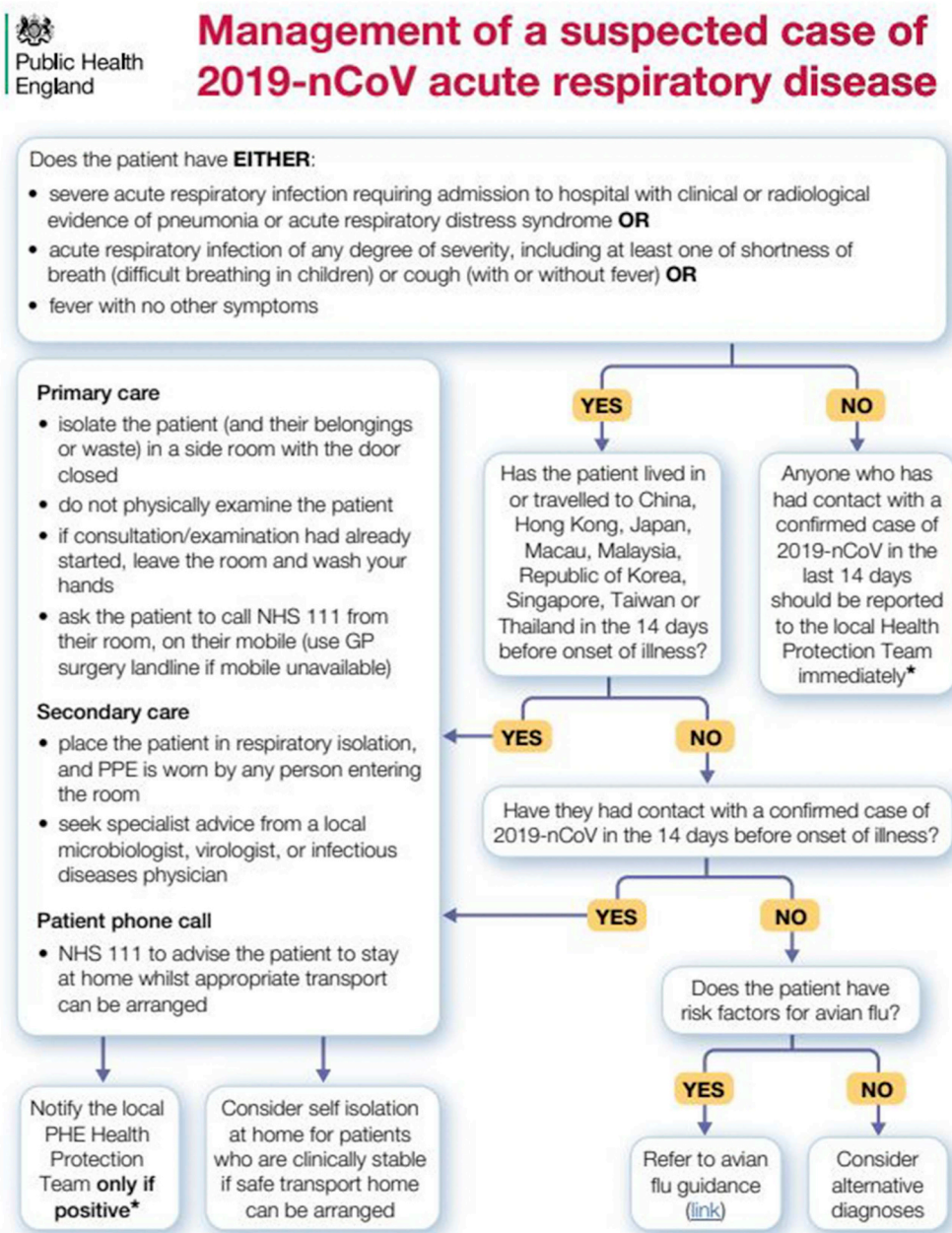


World Health Organization

Many countries around the world will have had a significant increase in workload to keep abreast of all the changes happening as the situation unfolds. Sometimes the information can feel overwhelming for busy healthcare practitioners who are trying to keep up to speed alongside their busy day jobs. For UK practitioners I have written a blog which outlines the current situation and is intended to direct them to the best resources they can access to keep up to date. See <https://janechiodini.blogspot.com/2020/01/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov.html>.

[blogspot.com/2020/01/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov.html](https://janechiodini.blogspot.com/2020/01/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov.html).

For example, we have a flowchart produced to help in the management of a suspected case of 2019-nCoV acute respiratory disease patient and help guide the practitioner whether they are caring in the primary or secondary care sectors. See <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-initial-investigation-of-possible-cases>.



Foot note - For further guidance:

- * [Link to local Health Protection Team lookup](#)
- [Link to background information](#)
- [Link to initial investigation of possible cases guidance](#)

- [Link to infection prevention and control guidance](#)
- [Link to primary care management guidance](#)
- [Link to clinical diagnostic laboratories guidance](#)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have a clearly laid out, comprehensive and easy to use selection of materials at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>. The range is vast with the section of healthcare professionals including interim guidance, infection control, preparedness checklist, details on clinical care, home care and a list of recent journal articles and publications on the disease. See <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/index.html>.

In the quarantine and isolation section there are many resources within the airline guidance section including Interim Recommendations for Airline Crew: Novel Coronavirus in China at <https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/air/managing-sick-travelers/ncov-airlines.html>.

This poster below within communication resources for travelers is also produced in Chinese found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/communication-resources.html>.

2019 nCoV CORONAVIRUS

HEALTH ALERT: *Travelers from China*
There is an outbreak of respiratory illness in China.

Travelers are required to be monitored for up to 14 days after leaving China.

Travelers should stay home and monitor their health within this 14-day period.
A health official will contact you to give additional instructions.

Take your temperature with a thermometer 2 times a day and watch your health.

If you develop a fever (100.4°F/38°C or higher), cough, or have difficulty breathing:

- Call your health department for advice before seeking care.
- If you can't reach your health department, call ahead before going to a doctor's office or emergency room.
- Tell them your symptoms and that you were in China.

For more information: www.cdc.gov/nCoV

Other sections include information of laboratories, public health professionals and much more, numerous hours could be spent reading the many pages providing comprehensive advice.

The Australian government have a collection of resources for the general public, health professionals and industry about novel coronavirus. Some are in both English and simplified Chinese. <https://>

www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/novel-coronavirus-2019-nCoV-resources#information-materials.

Similarly the Canadian government have produced materials but also translated into French and Chinese on the one resource. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/2019-novel-coronavirus-information-sheet.html>.

Some of my favourite resources to provide captivating education to our travellers can be found on YouTube. The WHO posted a well presented video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mOV1aBVYKGAThe>.

The BBC have published a visual guide to the outbreak. This summary of the situation at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-51235105> presents data in graphic format, answers frequently asked questions, an interactive tool displaying the building of the new hospital in Wuhan, a video explaining efforts being undertaken to develop vaccine and many helpful advice infographics.

Resources are plentiful and important for an increasingly changing picture. Compared to the SARS outbreak of 2002 it feels the world has learned a great deal about the importance of collaboration and this can only be a very positive move in combating the threat of the novel coronavirus at the present time.