

Coronavirus 2019-nCoV

Information

TO HELP UNDERSTAND

1 What is the coronavirus 2019-nCoV?

The coronaviruses represent a family of viruses, causing illnesses ranging from a simple cold to serious respiratory pathologies in humans.

A new coronavirus causing pulmonary infections was detected in China at the end of December 2019.

2 What are the at-risk areas?



The first cases were detected in the Hubei province (China).

The situation is constantly changing. Before any travel, consult the section **Recommendations for travelers** on the website diplomatie.gouv.fr

3 What are the methods of transmission?

Pulmonary infections from coronavirus are transmitted through the air (sneezing, coughing, etc.) **during close contact** with a person infected with the virus.

No transmission through objects has been currently reported.

4 What are the first symptoms?

Fever, cough, difficulty breathing arising within 14 days after returning from an area where there are reported cases of the coronavirus.



5 How can someone protect themselves?



> for those with the virus, wearing a surgical mask is recommended in order to avoid circulating the disease through the air.

> for people without the virus, wearing this type of mask is not recommended and its efficacy has not been demonstrated.

> healthcare professionals in contact with those who are ill must use specific protection equipment.



Hand washing is recommended in all cases

6 What should a person do after returning from an at-risk area?

Returning from an area where there are reported cases of the coronavirus

In case of a fever, cough or difficulty breathing within 14 days after returning



Call the paramedics by dialing 15 and indicate where you have recently traveled



Do not go directly to the doctor's or visit emergency care services at the hospital, avoid all contact with your family and friends

7 What are the treatments?

Care is based on the treatment of symptoms implemented in identified healthcare establishments

Any questions?



<https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/coronavirus>
<https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus>



For more information call the toll-free number **0800 130 000**.



The 2019-nCoronavirus Epidemic: Our Biases won't Protect Us

Although the virus was first identified in China, that does not mean that people from this country living in France present a transmission risk; our fellow Chinese citizens, and Asians in general, are not more likely to be carriers of the virus than other Ile-de-France inhabitants.

For travelers coming from areas where the epidemic is widespread, precautionary measures have been taken at airport arrival terminals. It was also precautionary reasons that led health authorities to quarantine French returnees from China.

The transmission risk only exists in case of close contact with a person infected with the virus, no matter where the person is from. As with any contagious virus, basic hygiene represents the first step in protection. Measures such as washing hands, coughing into one's elbow, using single-use tissues, wearing a mask and staying home when ill are as much to protect one's self from illness, as they are to avoid spreading it to others. Consequently, the act of wearing a mask in public spaces is first and foremost a warning sign for others: this protects other people from all viruses that someone could carry, and specifically, the flu virus, currently very active. This does not mean that someone has the Coronavirus, or that they are sick: this simply shows that they are being mindful of others.

In certain Asian countries, and specifically in China, wearing a mask in public spaces, quite common, is considered a fundamental sanitary measure. Therefore, it is completely normal that this defensive measure, recommended annually by the French Health Department's prevention campaigns during winter epidemics, were spontaneously adopted by many people – and this defensive measure should never be stigmatized.

Since this epidemic, like all other ones, affects everyone, it requires each person's effort to implement better daily hygiene.

No epidemic has ever been slowed down by the distrust or suspicion of others. On the contrary, distrust, suspicion and stigmatization create conditions that exacerbate the spreading of diseases.

