



Spot report: China lockdowns as a novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) death toll rises

Background

CHINA
Coronaviruses

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that cause not only the common cold but also more serious respiratory illnesses

2019-nCoV OUTBREAK
December 31, 2019

Symptoms

- Unknown incubation period
- Fever
- Difficult breathing
- Impaired liver and kidney function
- Kidney failure
- Severe cough
- Pneumonia

A novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) was identified as the source of the illnesses on January 7, with the infection traced to a Wuhan seafood market that also sold live animals

Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS)
Identified in Saudi Arabia in 2012 - Spread to 27 countries. 2,494 confirmed cases | 858 deaths

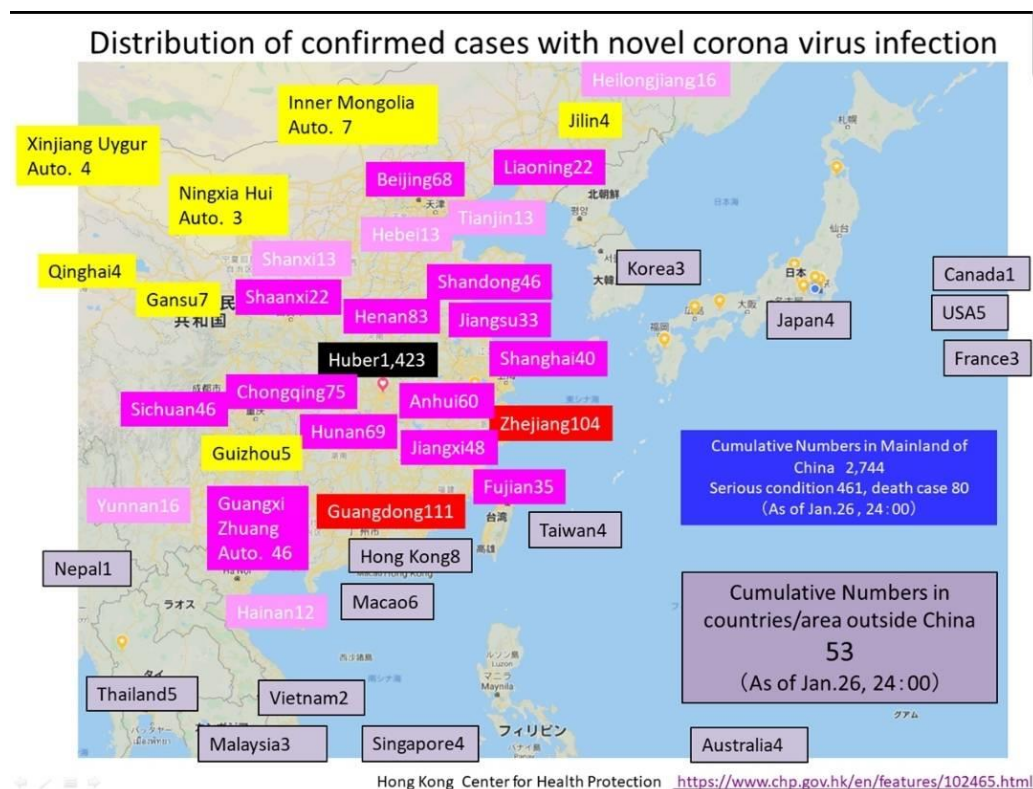
Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)
Emerging in southern China in 2002 - Spread to 30 countries. 8,437 cases | 813 deaths

Source: Al Jazeera | Last updated: Jan 21, 2020

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On 23 January 2020, the city of Wuhan, Central China's Hubei Province, has announced that outbound channels at Wuhan's train stations and airports would be closed starting from 10 am, and bus, subway and ferry services would also be shut down. The notice also requires that local residents should not leave Wuhan if there are no special reasons. The coronavirus has spread rapidly in recent days. In Wuhan, the number of pneumonia cases caused by 2019-nCoV

has increased sharply. These respiratory virus that has killed at least 56 people and sickened more than 2,118 in China can be transmitted between humans, data on 27 January 2020 (12.00 AM). Situation update on 27 January 2020, more than 2,000 confirmed cases of 2019-nCoV have been reported from fifteen countries including China (2,062 cases), Hong Kong (8 cases), Thailand (8 cases), Macau (5 cases), United State of America (5 cases), Australia (4 cases), Japan (4 cases), Malaysia (4 cases), Singapore (4 cases), Taiwan (4 cases), France (3 cases), South Korea (3 cases), Vietnam (2 cases), Canada (1 case) and Nepal (1 case).



Prevention; There is currently no vaccine to prevent 2019-nCoV infection. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, Centers of Disease control and Prevention (CDC) always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including: Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands. Avoid close contact with people who are sick. Stay home when you are sick. Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue,

then throw the tissue in the trash. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces. These are everyday habits that can help prevent the spread of several viruses.

Treatment; There is no specific antiviral treatment recommended for 2019-nCoV infection. People infected with 2019-nCoV should receive supportive care to help relieve symptoms. For severe cases, treatment should include care to support vital organ functions. People who think they may have been exposed to 2019-nCoV should contact your healthcare provider immediately.

Actions Taken

China: On 26 January 2020, Crew members of a military transported aircraft for providing medical aid, an air force unit in order to accept a mission to transport a team of medical staff to Wuhan, the center of the 2019-nCoV outbreak. China sent additional 12 teams of more than 1,600 medical staff to areas hit hard by the novel coronavirus outbreak in Hubei province.

Thailand : Thai - MOPH has announced Risk Communication to Public as bellow;

- The novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) can be prevented using the principles for respiratory disease prevention, i.e. washing hands, wearing masks and avoiding contact with patients who have a respiratory disease.
- People can still travel to China, however, it is recommended to avoid visiting crowded places and making contact with patients who have respiratory symptoms. If this is unavoidable, people should wear a mask.
- If anyone has symptoms including coughing, sneezing, panting or runny nose within 14 days after departing from Wuhan, China, please seek medical care at the hospital immediately and inform the doctor regarding the history of recent travel of China.
- It is recommended to avoid visiting markets selling carcasses or live animals. If touching or handling live animals, people should wear gloves.
- Regularly wash hands with water and soap or use alcohol gel. It is also recommended to avoid using your hands to touch your eyes, nose and mouth.

- Do not use or share personal stuff with others (i.e. handkerchief, glasses, and towels) since pathogens causing respiratory disease can be transmitted to other people through secretions.
- It is recommended to avoid eating uncooked food.

ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS –

Severity ranking of the concerns effect in the ASEAN region.

Section	Ranking	Issues identified	Recommendations
Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) outbreak in Wuhan, China	Y	The national authorities have reached the affected area.	The ACMM keep on monitoring and update medical information.

Remarks:

R: Severe Situation: Urgent intervention required.

Y: Situation of concern: Surveillance or assistance may or may not require, intensive monitoring

G: Relative normal situation or local Government can cope with the crisis, monitoring and no action required.

N/A: Lack of /unreliable data: Further assessment required.

ACMM Recommendations,

As a consequence, ACMM would like to scale up the Emergency Operations Center to REDCON Level 2 to closely monitor the ongoing situation with all member countries. In addition, ACMM recommend to use the technical interim guidance for novel coronavirus of WHO for surveillance and precaution. ACMM also facilitate and coordinate the cooperation between military and civilian.

References:

1. <https://www.CNN.com/>
2. <https://www.bbc.com>
3. <https://www.who.com>
4. <http://virological.org>

5. <http://cdc.gov>