Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Update

Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Outbreak Response Bureau

March 3, 2020
The information in this presentation is current as of March 3, 2020, unless otherwise noted, and subject to change.
Interim Events

• New CDC PUI criteria released

• Multiple instances of community spread in U.S. (WA, CA, OR)

• COVID-19 deaths in U.S.

• Cases identified in new states, including RI, NY, FL

• More new cases outside China than in China

• Changes in travel notices and restrictions
Epi Update
States with Confirmed and Presumptive Positive Cases of COVID-19*

# Cases in the U.S.
(Excluding people repatriated to U.S.)

## COVID-19: Confirmed and Presumptive Positive Cases in the United States*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Confirmed</th>
<th>Presumptive Positive**</th>
<th>Total Confirmed &amp; Presumptive Positive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Travel-related</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person-to-person spread</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total cases</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data updated March 2, 2020

Source: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov), accessed March 3, 2020
Cases Among Persons Repatriated to the U.S.

COVID-19: Cases among Persons Repatriated to the United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Positive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wuhan, China</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Diamond Princess Cruise Ship</em></td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Cases have laboratory confirmation and may or may not have been symptomatic.*

Data updated March 2, 2020

Source: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov), accessed March 3, 2020
Maryland: COVID-19 Cases and PUI

- Number of patients approved with testing for COVID-19: 13
- Number of tests pending at CDC: 7
- Number of negative tests: 6
- Number of laboratory-confirmed cases: 0


*Data current as of March 3, 2020 10:00am*
PUI Criteria
### Criteria to Guide Evaluation of PUI for COVID-19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinical Features</th>
<th>&amp;</th>
<th>Epidemiologic Risk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fever¹ or signs/symptoms of lower respiratory illness (e.g. cough or shortness of breath)</td>
<td>AND</td>
<td>Any person, including healthcare workers², who has had close contact³ with a laboratory-confirmed⁴ COVID-19 patient within 14 days of symptom onset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fever¹ and signs/symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough or shortness of breath) requiring hospitalization</td>
<td>AND</td>
<td>A history of travel from affected geographic areas⁵ (see below) within 14 days of symptom onset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fever¹ with severe acute lower respiratory illness (e.g., pneumonia, ARDS) requiring hospitalization and without alternative explanatory diagnosis (e.g., influenza)⁶</td>
<td>AND</td>
<td>No source of exposure has been identified</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Geographic Areas with Sustained Transmission (Community or Widespread)

Last updated February 28, 2020

- China ([Level 3 Travel Health Notice](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/clinical-criteria.html))
- Iran ([Level 3 Travel Health Notice](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/clinical-criteria.html))
- Italy ([Level 3 Travel Health Notice](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/clinical-criteria.html))
- Japan ([Level 2 Travel Health Notice](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/clinical-criteria.html))
- South Korea ([Level 3 Travel Health Notice](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/clinical-criteria.html))

Key points in considering testing

• Case by case basis

• Low threshold to review with MDH

• Likely alternate diagnosis

• Thorough infectious workup (as reasonably available)
Is an Airborne Infection Isolation Room (AIIR) required to evaluate all patients with confirmed COVID-19 and COVID-19 PUIs?

- Evaluation of PUIs and those with confirmed COVID-19 should occur in either an AIIR or an exam room with the door closed.
- There might not be a sufficient number of AIIRs to care for all of these patients.
- AIIRs should be prioritized for the care of hospitalized patients who are symptomatic with severe illness and for those needing procedures that could generate infectious aerosols.
- Regardless of the presence of an AIIR, healthcare personnel should wear all recommended personal protective equipment (i.e., gown, gloves, N-95 or higher-level respirator and eye protection) when caring for these patients.

If a patient does not strictly meet the criteria for being a PUI, does that mean that COVID-19 is ruled out and I do not need to follow the IPC for healthcare personnel?

- Failure to meet a PUI does not definitively exclude the possibility of COVID-19

- All patients should be managed using Standard Precautions. Transmission-Based Precautions should be added to Standard Precautions based on the patient’s clinical syndrome and likely etiologic agents.

- If COVID-19 is suspected, the patient should be managed using Standard, Contact, and Airborne Precautions with eye protection until the diagnosis is excluded.

If COVID-19 is considered a possible diagnosis for a patient, what discharge instructions should patients receive?

• Stay home except to get medical care
• Monitor your symptoms
• Separate yourself from other people and animals in your home
• Call ahead before visiting your doctor
• Wear a facemask
• Cover your coughs and sneezes
• Clean your hands often
• Avoid sharing personal household items
• Clean all “high-touch” surfaces everyday
Lab Update

Dr. Robert Myers, Director, MDH Laboratories Administration
Packaging and Shipping Specimens for COVID-19 Testing

Robert A. Myers Ph.D., Director
Maryland Department of Health Laboratories Administration
February 20, 2020
Packaging and Shipping Clinical Specimens Diagram (Basic Triple Packaging)

- Watertight Primary Plastic Receptacle
  *If multiple fragile primary receptacles are placed in a single secondary packaging, they must be either individually wrapped or separated so as to prevent contact between them

- Watertight Secondary Packaging

- List of Contents

- Rigid Outer Packaging
  - Infectious Substance Label
  - Proper Shipping Name and UN Number

- Infectious Substance
- Absorbent Packing Material (for liquids)

- Cross Section of Closed Package
  - Watertight Secondary Packaging
  - Rigid Outer Packaging
  - UN Package Certification Mark
  - Shipper or Consignee Identification
  - Infectious Substance
  - Absorbent Packing Material
  - Closure requires positive means of ensuring leakproof seal
IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SHIPPER TO COMPLY WITH ALL LAWS AND REGULATIONS REGARDING THE SHIPPING OF INFECTIOUS SUBSTANCES.
Individuals who package potentially infectious materials (Division 6.2 materials as defined by the DOT) must be trained and certified. On-line training for certification or re-certification (every 2 years) is available from the CDC TRAIN program: train.org/cdctrain/course/1075969/
Transport of Specimens to the MDH Lab

• The MDH Lab has a contract with a private company that can dispatch a courier to pick-up and deliver specimens in emergency situations

• For local, extremely time sensitive testing the MDH Lab staff can pick-up specimens from your location

• Local Health Department staff may also volunteer to courier the properly packaged specimens to the MDH Lab

• With proper coordination you can use your organization’s courier or use the routine MDH Lab courier system that picks up specimens from the local health departments on weekdays (M-F)
Travel
CDC Travel Notice Updates

• Widespread sustained transmission and restrictions on entry to U.S. (Level 3 Health Notice)
  • China
  • Iran (new)

• Widespread sustained transmission (Level 3 Health Notice)
  • South Korea
  • Italy

• Sustained community transmission (Level 2 Health Notice)
  • Japan

Recs for Returning Travelers

• Currently, only travelers returning from mainland China in the past 14 days are advised to stay home and self-monitor with public health supervision.

• Travelers returning from other areas of the world with sustained/widespread community transmission should:
  • Carefully self-monitor for symptoms
  • If symptoms develop
    • Call in advance for medical care
    • Do not go to work or school
Risk Assessment by Country

Search COVID-19 risk assessment by country.

Monitoring
Monitoring Update

• Current status

• Next steps
Community Mitigation

Preparing for Cases in Maryland
Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities

Protect yourself and your community from getting and spreading respiratory illnesses like coronavirus disease 2019. Everyone has a role to play in getting ready and staying healthy.

How to prepare for Super Tuesday

- Polling station workers can prevent the spread of COVID-19 through routine cleaning and disinfection of electronic equipment (such as voting machines and computers) and polling stations.

How to prepare and take action for COVID-19

**At Home**
- Get my household ready

**At Childcare and K-12 Schools**
- Get my school ready

**At Colleges and Universities**
- Get my college or university ready

**At Work**
- Get my workplace ready

**Healthcare settings**
- Healthcare professionals, get ready

**Large Community Events/Mass Gatherings**
- Event planners, get ready

New CDC Guidance

- Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities Monday, March 2, 2020
- Resources for Healthcare Facilities Saturday, February 29, 2020
- Strategies for Optimizing the Supply of N95 Respirators Saturday, February 29, 2020
- Strategies to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 in Long-Term Care Facilities (LTCF) Saturday, February 29, 2020
- Interim Guidance for Healthcare Facilities Saturday, February 29, 2020
- Steps Healthcare Facilities Can Take Saturday, February 29, 2020
- Community Mitigation Guidance for COVID-19 Response in the United States: Nonpharmaceutical Interventions for Community Preparedness and Outbreak Response Thursday, February 27, 2020
- Evaluating and Reporting Persons Under Investigation (PUI) Thursday, February 27, 2020
- Know the Facts About COVID-19 and Help Stop the Spread of Rumors Wednesday, February 26, 2020