



Critical Infrastructure Protection Public-Private Partnership  
Healthcare and Public Health Sector

## Healthcare and Public Health Sector 2019 Novel Coronavirus Incident Response (Update #2)

February 11, 2020

*This email has been prepared by the [HHS ASPR Division of Critical Infrastructure Protection \(CIP\)](#).*

*If you observe or experience any impacts to critical infrastructure due to the incident, or have a request for information, please email us at [CIP@hhs.gov](mailto:CIP@hhs.gov)*

### Situation

HPH Sector Stakeholders-

Government and private sector partners continue to monitor for impacts as a result of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) outbreak. The [CDC homepage on 2019-nCoV](#) is the best source of information and is being regularly updated.

#### Supply Chain:

- CDC is preparing for the possibility of a sustained response to the 2019-nCoV outbreak, and is taking steps to ensure the U.S. has enough supply of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and [appropriate guidance](#). If information about market availability changes, updates will be posted on the CDC [Healthcare Supply of PPE](#) page.
  - CDC understands the importance of providing guidance that healthcare facilities can implement, given supplies of PPE available. HHS communicates regularly with healthcare industry partners, PPE manufacturers and distributors, to assess availability of PPE.
  - Given decreases in exports from select countries and increases in demand due to the outbreak, manufacturers of select types of PPE (N95 respirators and facemasks) are reporting increased volume of orders and challenges in meeting order demands. Plans to surge manufacturing globally are underway.
  - CDC offers strategies for healthcare setting on how to [optimize supplies of N95 respirators](#) in the face of decreasing supply. These strategies are organized using the occupational health and safety hierarchy of controls approach.

- CDC has also provided answers to [frequently asked questions about respirators and their use](#).
  - As CDC learns more about 2019-nCoV and the needs of the response or availability of PPE within the U.S. healthcare facilities changes, CDC guidance will be updated.
- CDC does NOT currently recommend the general public use facemasks. Instead, CDC recommends following [everyday preventive actions](#), such as washing your hands, covering your cough, and staying home when you are sick.

#### Healthcare Professionals:

*CDC [Information for Healthcare Professionals](#) is the best source of information and is being updated regularly. Below is a snapshot, and additional resources are available online.*

- CDC expanded [interim guidance for healthcare professionals](#) to include:
  - [Evaluating and Reporting Patients Under Investigation \(PUI\)](#)
    - Includes a [flowchart to identify and assess 2019-nCoV](#)
  - [Healthcare Infection Control Guidance](#)
  - [Clinical Care Guidance](#)
  - [Home Care Guidance](#)
  - [Guidance for EMS](#)
  - [Healthcare Personnel with Potential Exposure Guidance](#)
  - [Disposition of Patients with 2019-nCoV](#)
- Additional resources are available including preparedness checklists for [healthcare providers](#) and [hospitals](#).

#### Businesses:

- CDC has provided interim guidance for [businesses in the non-healthcare setting](#) that may help prevent workplace exposures to acute respiratory illnesses, including 2019-nCoV, in non-healthcare settings. The guidance also provides planning considerations if there are more widespread, community outbreaks of 2019-nCoV.
- The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has provided additional information on [protecting workers](#) from potential exposure to 2019-nCoV.

#### Travel:

- The [U.S. government has suspended](#) entry in the United States of foreign nationals who have visited China within the past 14 days. Measures also are being implemented to detect this virus among those who are allowed entry into the United States (U.S. citizens, residents and family) who have been in China within 14 days.
- The State Department issued a Level 4 travel warning, its highest level, advising U.S. citizens to avoid travel to China. Most commercial airlines have reduced or suspended routes to or from China.
- CDC raised its travel warning to [level 3](#), its highest level, urging U.S. citizens to avoid all nonessential travel to China. This is a change in posture as the level 3 warning was previously only for Wuhan, China.

The Healthcare and Public Health Sector Partnership, CIP, and other partners across government and industry are working in support of CDC on critical infrastructure needs. If you are experiencing challenges please reach out to [CIP@hhs.gov](mailto:CIP@hhs.gov).

## Virtual Resources

The below resources and guidance provided by the CDC and others.

- [CDC Homepage for 2019 Novel Coronavirus, Wuhan, China](#)
- [CDC Healthcare Supply of PPE Guidance](#)
- [CDC Travel Guidance](#)
- [CDC Guidance for Healthcare Professionals](#)
- [CDC Guidance for Businesses](#)
- [CDC Guidance for Laboratories](#)
- [Johns Hopkins University Wuhan Coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\) Global Cases](#)

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