

## CDHB/CPRG **CORONAVIRUS** UPDATE Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020 16:00 hrs

**Important information for all GP teams, Community Pharmacists, Community Nursing and Aged Care Facilities – Please share this with everyone in your team**

The Canterbury health system is prepared for the likelihood of assessing and caring for someone with novel coronavirus. To date there are no cases of coronavirus in New Zealand. It is likely we will have cases in New Zealand, however, the risk of an outbreak is low.

The Ministry of Health have up-to-date information and advice on novel coronavirus, including a useful [novel coronavirus fact sheet](#) for the public. Please feel free to share this information with any members of the public who are concerned or would like more information. NOTE: this fact sheet will be updated regularly as the situation evolves. It is currently being updated on a daily basis.

Please visit the Ministry of Health website for further updates: [www.health.govt.nz/coronavirus](http://www.health.govt.nz/coronavirus).

### Information for general practice reception and nursing staff

If you take a call from someone who is concerned that they have coronavirus, and who says they meet the criteria below, please make an appointment for them at the earliest opportunity and ask them and their support person to wear a mask and **stay in their vehicle** in the practice/facility car park and call when they arrive. Posters for your practice can be found on the CPRG website: <http://www.primaryhealthresponse.org.nz/plan-prepare/other-infectious-risk/>.

#### Questions you should ask people who phone in and think they have coronavirus:

##### Have you recently returned from overseas?

- Have you been to Wuhan, Hubei province, China in the past 10-14 days?
- Have you been contacted by an airline to say you were on a plane with someone with coronavirus?
- Have you been in a country where there are known cases of coronavirus in the past 10-14 days?
- Have you been in close contact with someone with a confirmed case of coronavirus?

##### What are your symptoms?

- Do you have a fever? (Almost all cases have extremely high fever, >38°C.)
- Do you have a cough?
- How is your breathing?

If any patient meets most of these criteria, please transfer the call to a practice nurse straight away.

#### What are the symptoms of 2019-nCoV (Novel Coronavirus)?

Symptoms of 2019-nCoV are similar to a range of other illnesses such as influenza and do not necessarily mean the person has 2019-nCoV.

Symptoms include fever, coughing and difficulty breathing. Difficulty breathing can be a sign of pneumonia and requires immediate medical attention. We don't yet know how long symptoms take to show after a person has been infected, but current World Health Organisation (WHO) assessments suggest that it is between 2-10 days. (Source: Ministry of Health advice update 30 January 2020.)

For updated info for Canterbury Primary and Community care visit the CPRG website:

[www.primaryhealthresponse.org.nz](http://www.primaryhealthresponse.org.nz)

Kind regards,

Dr Phil Schroeder, Canterbury Primary Response Group

[www.primaryhealthresponse.org.nz](http://www.primaryhealthresponse.org.nz)