

# WHO China Update

Novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) outbreak

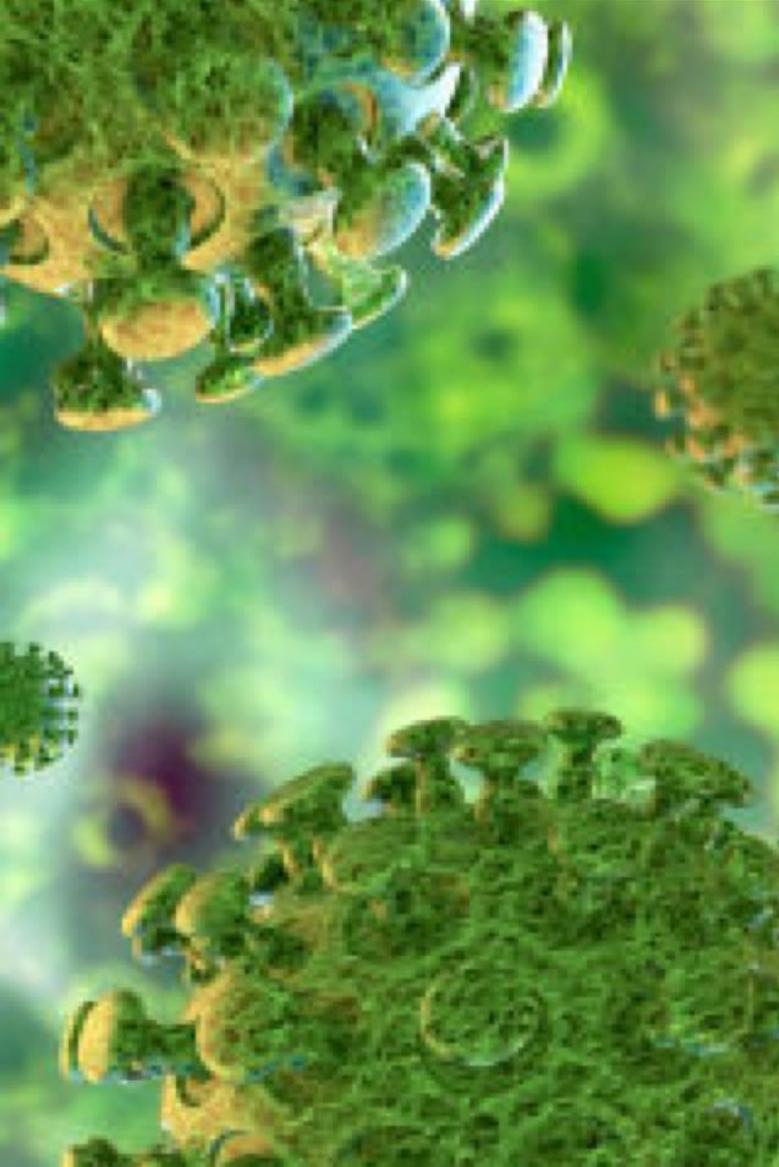
2019 - 2020

Update #1 22.01.20



World Health  
Organization

# Introduction



## What is a coronavirus?

Coronaviruses are a family of viruses that infect both animals and humans. Human coronaviruses can cause mild disease similar to a common cold, while others cause more severe disease (such as MERS - Middle East Respiratory Syndrome and SARS – Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome). Some coronaviruses that are found in animals can infect humans – these are known as zoonotic diseases.

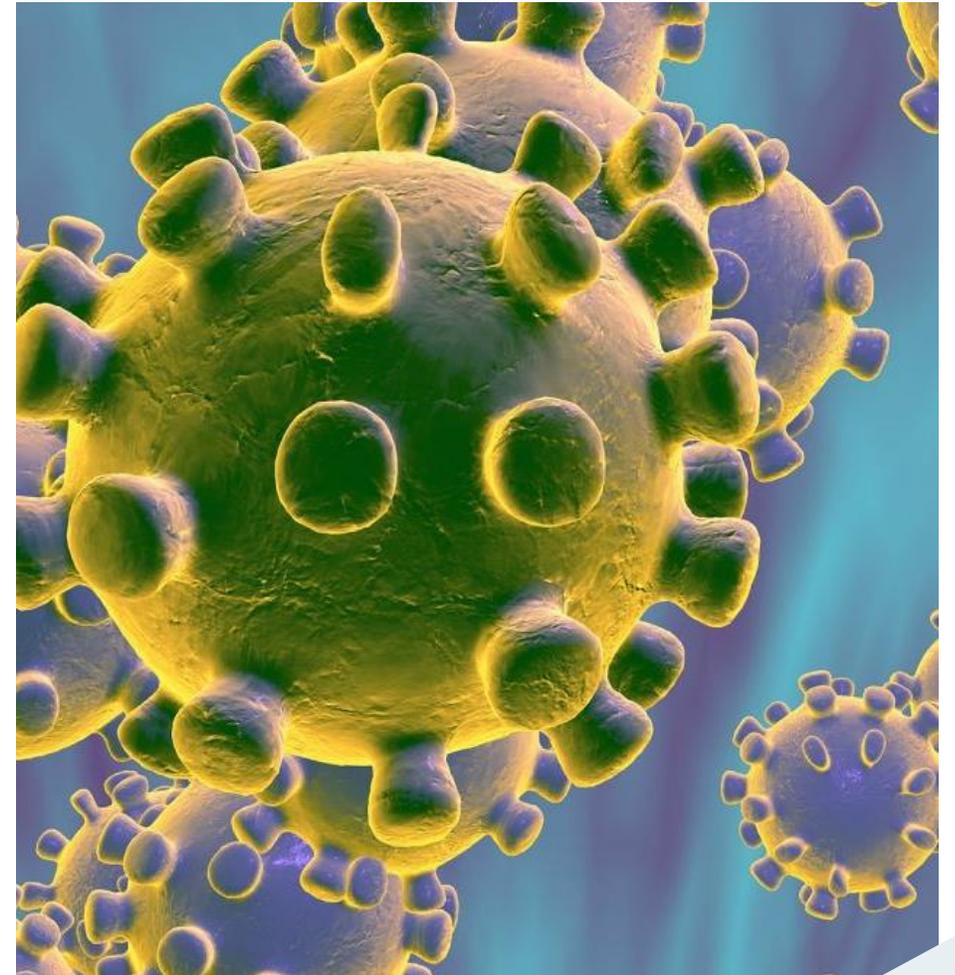
# Introduction continued

## What is known about the disease identified in Wuhan China?

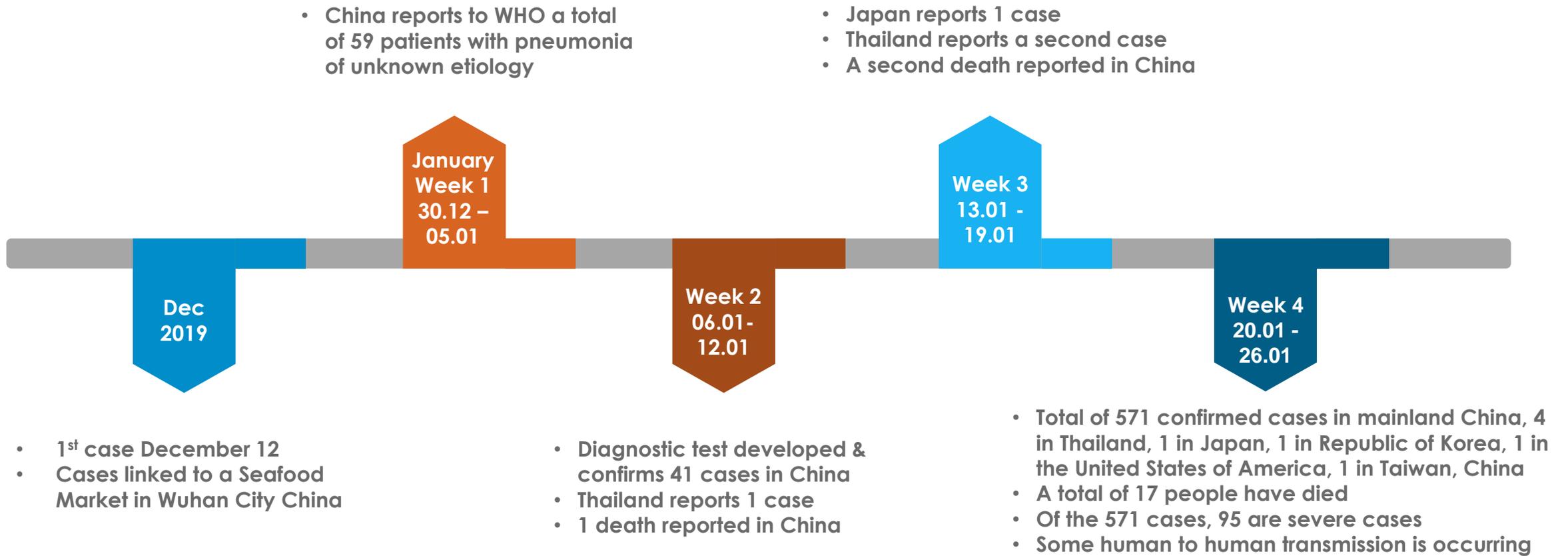
- It is caused by a novel coronavirus (called 2019-nCoV)
- Infection with this virus causes respiratory disease ranging from mild to severe disease.
- Some infected patients have died from infection (people with serious underlying medical conditions are more at risk for severe disease and death)

## What is NOT known about the disease?

- Where it came from?
- How easily it spreads between people?
- Who is vulnerable to infection?



# Timeline of the outbreak



# Important events

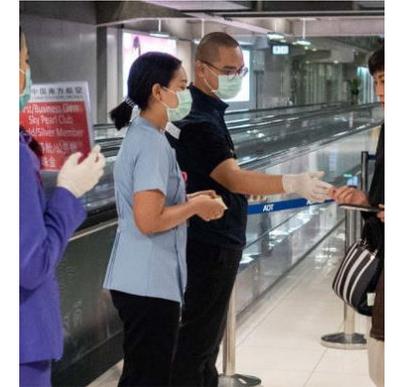
- Initial cases all linked to Huanan Seafood Market in Wuhan City, China. The Market was closed 01.01.20 for environmental sanitation and disinfection
- On 10 January, WHO launched a website with updated general and travel guidance  
<https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>
- On 11 January, China shared the genetic sequence of nCoV enabling the rapid development of diagnostic tests
- The cases in Thailand, Japan and Republic of Korea were all travelers from Wuhan City



# What is being done to control the outbreak?

## What are affected countries doing?

- Remaining vigilant for new cases and providing care for existing cases
- Implementing screening of travelers
- Sharing information with WHO and other countries



## What is WHO doing?

- Supporting affected countries and providing guidance on how to manage the outbreak
- Working with global networks of researchers and experts to deliver accurate, updated information
- Delivering accurate, timely information to the world



# Public health advice: summary

*Stay healthy and protect yourself from infection*



Frequently clean hands by using alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water

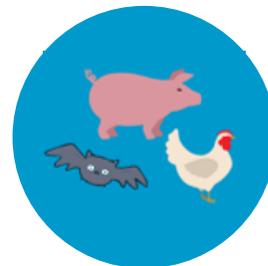


Cover mouth and nose with a medical mask, tissue, or flexed elbow when coughing or sneezing. Wash hands afterwards and discard mask or tissue.

Avoid unprotected close contact with people with fever and cough and seek medical care if you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing



If you become sick while travelling, inform crew, seek medical attention early and share travel history



When visiting live markets, avoid direct unprotected contact with live animals and surfaces in contact with animals

## STAY HEALTHY WHILE TRAVELLING

When coughing and sneezing cover mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue – throw tissue away immediately and wash hands



If you choose to wear a face mask, be sure to cover mouth and nose - avoid touching mask once it's on



Immediately discard single-use mask after each use and wash hands after removing masks



## STAY HEALTHY WHILE TRAVELLING

Avoid close contact with people suffering from a fever and cough



Frequently clean hands by using alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water

Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth



## STAY HEALTHY WHILE TRAVELLING

If you become sick while travelling, inform crew and seek medical attention early



If you seek medical attention, share travel history with your health care provider



## STAY HEALTHY WHILE TRAVELLING

Eat only well-cooked food



Avoid close contact and travel with animals that are sick



# Safe travel guidance

# Advice for travel by air, boat and train

*Stay healthy while travelling*



## **Before you depart:**

Avoid travel if you have a fever and cough

If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing seek medical attention and share previous travel history with your health care provider

## **During travel:**

- Avoid close contact with people suffering from a fever and cough
- Frequently wash hands by using alcohol based hand rub or soap and water
- Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth
- Cover mouth and nose with tissue or flexed elbow when coughing or sneezing and wash hands afterwards
- If you choose to wear a face mask, be sure to cover mouth and nose. Avoid touching mask once it's on, immediately discard single-use mask after each use and wash hands after removing masks.
- If you become sick while travelling, inform crew and seek medical attention
- If you seek medical attention, share travel history with your health care provider

## Practise food safety

Even in **areas experiencing outbreaks**, meat products can be safely consumed if these items are **cooked thoroughly and properly handled** during food preparation.



## Practise food safety

Use different **chopping boards and knives** for raw meat and cooked foods



**Wash your hands** between handling raw and cooked food.



## Practise food safety

Sick animals and animals that have died of diseases **should not be eaten**



# Food safety guidance

## Working in wet markets?

Stay healthy!



Frequently **wash your hands** with soap and water after touching animals and animal products

**Disinfect equipment and working area** at least once a day



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## Shopping in wet markets?

Stay healthy!

**Wash hands** with soap and water after touching animals and animal products



**Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth**

**Avoid contact with sick animals and spoiled meat**



**Avoid contact with stray animals, waste and fluids** in market



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## Working in wet markets?

Stay healthy!



**Wear protective gowns, gloves and facial protection** while handling animals and fresh animal products

**Remove protective clothing after work, wash daily and leave at the work site**



**Avoid exposing family members to soiled work clothing and shoes**

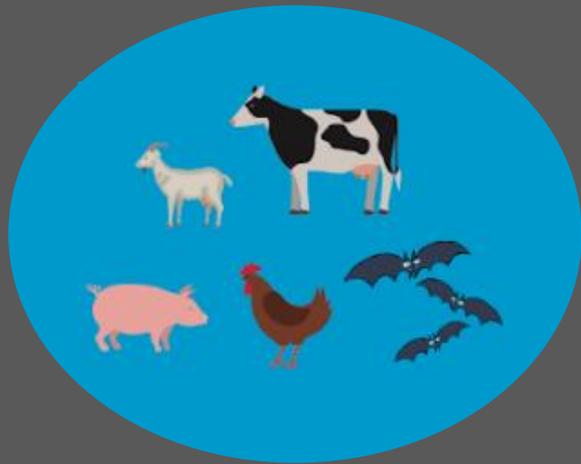


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# Wet market guidance

# Guidance for shopping in wet markets

*Stay healthy at markets*



- Wash hands with soap and water after touching animals and animal products
- Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth
- Avoid contact with sick animals and spoiled meat
- Avoid contact with stray animals, waste and fluids in market
- Avoid direct unprotected contact with live animals and surfaces in contact with animals



# Guidance for working in wet markets

*Stay healthy at markets*



- Frequently washing hands with soap and water after touching animals and animal products
- Disinfect equipment and working area at least once a day
- Wear protective gowns, gloves and facial protection while handling animals and fresh animal products
- Remove protective clothing after work, wash daily and leave at the work site
- Avoid exposing family members to soiled work clothing and shoes

# More information

## WHO sources:

NCoV website <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>

Disease Outbreak News <https://www.who.int/csr/don/en/>

WHO Travel Advice <https://www.who.int/ith/en/>

WHO China Weibo (for updated personal protective advice):  
<https://weibo.com/whoinchina>