

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS BACKGROUND

Coronavirus History:

On December 31, 2019, the World Health Organization became familiar with the active infection spreading in Wuhan, China. On January 7, 2020, it was confirmed this disease was the first of its kind and is now known as COVID-19. The coronavirus was first reported in China and has now made its mark on an international level.

What is the coronavirus?

The coronavirus (COVID-19) is a new disease that is a part of a large family of viruses that are commonly found in people and animals. Human coronavirus is exchanged by respiratory droplets and close interaction with people with the infection. The nose, throat and lungs are the primary targets for human coronavirus.

Symptoms:

Coronavirus is measured on a scale of mild to severe. Symptoms to be mindful of are fever, sore throat, cough, runny nose and difficulties breathing. A severe case of coronavirus can cause pneumonia, acute respiratory syndrome, kidney failure and life-threatening outcomes. Coronavirus symptoms may become visible 2 to 14 days after being exposed to the virus. If you feel you have any of these symptoms, see a health care provider.

Treatments:

There is no concrete cure or vaccine for the coronavirus. There's a good chance with mild coronavirus your body will run its course and recover on its own. Symptoms of the coronavirus are treatable with medical attention.

Coronavirus Prevention:

In order to protect ourselves against coronavirus it's important to take care of ourselves. By washing our hands with warm water and soap, sanitizing your environment, avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth and practice proper respiratory hygiene to prevent spreading germs. It's wise to separate yourself from situations that can affect your health and others around you such as avoid physical interaction with people who are sick, stay home if you're sick and take care of your body and overall health.

Risks to Canadians:

When it comes to age and health status there's a risk to people of old age, people who have medical conditions and people who have weaker immune systems. Canadian travelers are at risk of catching or spreading the coronavirus depending on their destination.

Canada's Support:

The Canadian Government has the best interests of their nation in mind when it comes to thinking about their health and safety. The Government of Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada are keeping strict tabs on the growth of the coronavirus in other countries. Multiple organizations have provided resources and information about the coronavirus to educate and prepare Canada for what the future may hold. The Canadian Government is working endlessly on receiving new information and research to provide the public with updates.