

PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

GUIDANCE ON NOVEL CORONAVIRUS

FEBRUARY 3, 2020

SITUATION

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continues to closely monitor an outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) that was initially detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China in December 2019. As of February 2, 2020, 14,557 cases have been identified globally with 14,411 cases in China. Eleven cases have been identified in the United States, of which six cases were from California. No cases have been reported in Riverside County.

Updates on the outbreak are located at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

One hundred and ninety-five US citizens are currently being housed at March Air Reserve Base under a 14 day Quarantine Order issued by the Secretary of Health and Human Services Agency. The individuals are being monitored for development of illness. CDPH issued an AFL on January 31, 2020, which provides recommendations for health care facilities. The AFL is located at:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/CDPH%20Document%20Library/AFL-20-09.pdf>.

In addition, an updated checklist with step-by-step guidance is included with this advisory.

COLLECTION AND SUBMISSION OF SPECIMENS

Specimens on patients being evaluated for possible 2019-nCoV should include nasopharyngeal and oral swabs, serum, and sputum or bronchoalveolar lavage (if the patient has lower respiratory illness). Swabs must be **ONLY** synthetic fiber with plastic shafts placed immediately into sterile tubes containing 2-3 ml of viral transport media. All specimens must be refrigerated at 2-8 °C.

Please contact Disease Control at the numbers below, **prior** to collecting specimens. Contact the Riverside County Public Health lab (PHL) at (951) 358-5070 for questions on specimen collection. The lab request form is located at www.rivcolab.org. Specimens will be sent overnight by the Riverside County PHL to the CDC for testing.

REPORTING

Suspect cases should be immediately reported to Disease Control at (951) 358-5107 during business hours or after hours (Public Health duty officer) at (951)782-2974.

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