UNDERSTANDING NOVEL CORONAVIRUS

(COVID-19 acute respiratory disease)
what we know about coronavirus

- Chinese public health authorities have identified a novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV Acute Respiratory Disease) not previously seen.
- The virus causes fever and respiratory symptoms.
- To date, the virus has infected tens of thousands of people,
- with hundreds of reported deaths.
  - Access case counts here: Global Map of Confirmed Cases
- Public health authorities are actively investigating this outbreak and the situation will evolve.
WHAT IS A CORONAVIRUS?
Coronaviruses (CoV) are a large family of viruses that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV).

A novel coronavirus (nCoV) is a new strain that has not been previously identified in humans.

Coronaviruses are transmitted between animals and people. Several known coronaviruses are circulating in animals that have not yet infected humans.

Common signs of infection include respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, shortness of breath and trouble breathing. In more severe cases, infection can cause pneumonia, severe acute respiratory syndrome, kidney failure and even death.
How does coronavirus spread?

It depends on the particular coronavirus.

Human coronaviruses are rarely spread by fecal contamination but may spread from an infected person to others through:

- The air by coughing and sneezing
- Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands
- Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose or eyes before washing your hands
we can take steps to help protect public health

Public health recommendations focus on standard infection control practices, training and compliance.
Coronavirus is an enveloped virus. Enveloped viruses are the least resistant to disinfection, which means disinfectants can be used to effectively kill coronavirus on surfaces.

Good News

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WHAT STEPS SHOULD YOU TAKE IN YOUR BUSINESS?
THERE ARE CURRENTLY NO VACCINES AVAILABLE TO PROTECT YOU AGAINST HUMAN CORONAVIRUS INFECTION.

Ensure employee health and hygiene practices are in place, especially proper hand hygiene.

Disinfect hard surfaces and high-touch areas, including:
- Railings
- Door knobs and handles
- Restroom surfaces
- Counters
- Tabletops

Ensure availability and proper training of personal protective equipment (PPE) where appropriate.

Covering your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throwing the tissue in the trash and washing your hands.

Wash your hands. Wash your hands. Wash your hands.

Staying home when you are sick.
Avoid consuming raw or undercooked animals or sick animals.

Avoid cross-contamination by properly handling raw meat, milk or other animal materials.

Properly clean and sanitize food contact surfaces including hands and utensils.

**WHAT ABOUT FOOD SAFETY?**

Currently, there is no evidence that 2019-nCoV is transmitted to humans through food.
Action plan for Restaurants

Identify your most vulnerable spots.

- Follow local public health recommendations.
- Reinforce personal hygiene (hand and cough) throughout your organization.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and high-touch objects with approved disinfectants.
- Continue to follow food-contact surface procedures.
- Provide hygiene materials such as soap, alcohol-based hand rubs and hand sanitizer stations to guests and employees.
Action plan for Healthcare

Identify your most vulnerable spots.

- Follow local public health recommendations.
- Reinforce personal hygiene (hand and cough) throughout your organization.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and high-touch objects with approved disinfectants.
- Continue to follow food-contact surface procedures.
- Provide hygiene materials such as soap, alcohol-based hand rubs and hand sanitizer stations to guests and employees.
PATIENTS

- Wear surgical mask
- Be evaluated in a private room with the door closed  
  *(ideally, an airborne infection isolation room)*

PERSONNEL

- Standard precautions
- Contact precautions
- Airborne precautions
- Eye protection (e.g., goggles or face shield)

HYGIENE

- Frequent hand hygiene
  - The World Health Organization recommends performing hand hygiene with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub if soap and water are not available.
- Disinfection of surfaces using EPA-registered products that have a claim against emerging viral pathogens
Action plan for Hospitality

Identify your most vulnerable spots.

- Follow local public health recommendations.
- Reinforce personal hygiene (hand and cough) throughout your organization.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and high-touch objects with approved disinfectants.
- Continue to follow food-contact surface procedures.
- Provide hygiene materials such as soap, alcohol-based hand rubs and hand sanitizer stations to guests and employees.
Recommendations

These are everyday habits that can help prevent the spread of several viruses. CDC does have specific guidance for travelers.
Prevention

There is currently no vaccine to prevent 2019-nCoV infection. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
Treatment

These are everyday habits that can help prevent the spread of several viruses. CDC does have specific guidance for travelers.

- There is no specific antiviral treatment recommended for 2019-nCoV infection. People infected with 2019-nCoV should receive supportive care to help relieve symptoms. For severe cases, treatment should include care to support vital organ functions.

- People who think they may have been exposed to 2019-nCoV should contact your healthcare provider immediately.

- See Interim Guidance for Healthcare Professionals for information on patients under investigation.
TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Wash Your Hands & Wash Them Again.
WE'RE HERE TO HELP.

Connect with your Auto-Chlor team for:

- World-class training programs and tools
- On-site service and solution support
- Call center support