



Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency

Healthy People, Healthy Communities

Tammy Moss Chandler, Director

Noemi Doohan, MD, PhD, County Health Officer



Press Release

Not for op-ed

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Ashley Toxqui

Phone: 707-463-7905

Email: toxquia@mendocinocounty.org

Novel (new 2019) Coronavirus Health Advisory

The Mendocino County Public Health Department is working closely with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to monitor the novel (new) coronavirus outbreak, which originated in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China in December 2019. This virus is new, and therefore is more likely to cause serious respiratory (lung) illness.

As of today, there have been no cases identified in Mendocino County and only 11 cases in the United States, with no deaths. All identified California cases are related to travel in Hubei Province, China. **Currently, the immediate health risk from the novel coronavirus to the general public in California is very low.**

Public health officials are continuously learning about this virus. Mendocino County Public Health, alongside our local, regional and State-wide partners will continue to closely monitor the situation.

It is very important that persons who are residing in Mendocino County who have recently traveled to Hubei Province, China (in January 2020), or have had direct contact with a person with this recent travel history, contact the Mendocino County Public Health Department at (707) 472-2600 so we can provide education and guidance. **If you have general questions, please contact your health care provider.**

As with any virus, **including with the influenza virus during the current flu season**, Mendocino County Public Health reminds you that there are a number of steps you can take to protect your health and the health of those around you:

- Washing hands with soap and water after being in public.
- Avoiding touching eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick
- If someone does become sick with respiratory symptoms like fever and cough, they should stay away from work, school or other people to avoid spreading illness.
- If you have not already gotten a flu shot this season, please consider getting one now.

Please contact Mendocino County Public Health at (707) 472-2600 if you have any questions.