

Coronavirus Fact Sheet

for CommonSpirit Health Employees

About Coronavirus

- 2019 Novel Coronavirus, or 2019-nCoV, is commonly referred to as coronavirus. It was first identified in Wuhan, Hebei Province, China. It isn't completely clear how coronavirus spreads from person to person.
- Current symptoms with coronavirus currently include mild to severe respiratory illness with fever, cough and difficulty breathing. People with coronavirus are presenting symptoms between 2 and 14 days after exposure.
- The World Health Organization and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are actively monitoring coronavirus cases. **Right now, the CDC believes the risk coronavirus poses to the general U.S. population is low.** (Click [here](#) to see the CDC's coronavirus prevention guidance)
- As of January 30, there have been more than 7,000 confirmed coronavirus cases reported globally, including five in the U.S. – one in Washington, one in Illinois, two in California and one in Arizona. All U.S. patients are reported to have recently traveled to China.
- For comparison, only 170 deaths from coronavirus have been confirmed this season, while more than 8,000 deaths from the flu have been reported.
- Only the CDC can test patients for coronavirus. Those tests are coordinated through local public health departments.

What CommonSpirit Health is Doing

- The care and safety of our patients and staff is our highest priority. Our hospitals are well prepared to care for patients with infectious diseases and constantly review these protocols.
- Every CommonSpirit Health facility is reviewing its personal protective equipment (PPE) supplies, implementing a patient screening process, and reviewing infectious disease protocols with clinical and non-clinical staff as needed.
- Our coronavirus protocols include:
 - Mask patients that meet screening criteria (use surgical or regular mask—not respirator) and place in private or negative isolation room if available.
 - Health care workers should don respirator with eye protection, gown and gloves.
 - Follow standard, contact and airborne respiratory precautions with eye protection (N95 with goggles) when caring for patients.
 - Immediately contacting facility Infection Preventionist, Administrator On Call and local public health department for every suspected case of coronavirus.

What You Can Do

- All staff can help prevent the future spread of infectious diseases through proper use of PPEs, masking of symptomatic patients, practicing healthy hand hygiene and staying home when sick.
- Stay updated on the latest educational offerings and other trainings that ensure the highest levels of preparedness. Employees will be notified as new modules are available.

And Remember...

- The spread of coronavirus is a fluid situation. As needed, we will provide updated information to our staff. If you have any questions, please speak first with your supervisor.