

SNOHOMISH HEALTH DISTRICT MEDIA RELEASES

Posted on: January 21, 2020

CASE OF 2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS CONFIRMED IN WASHINGTON STATE RESIDENT

OLYMPIA – Today the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) confirmed a case of 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in a Snohomish County resident. While the risk to the general public is low, DOH is working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Snohomish Health District to identify and contact all those who may have come in contact with the infected traveler. These individuals will be monitored for fever and respiratory symptoms.

“As our team of experts partners with infectious disease specialists locally, nationally and around the globe to learn more about the 2019 novel coronavirus, our first priority remains public safety,” said Washington State Secretary of Health John Wiesman. “We believe the risk to the public is low. And as this situation evolves, we will continue to communicate with the CDC, Snohomish County and the public.”

The patient, a man in his 30s, is the first person known to be infected with 2019-nCoV in the United States. He arrived in Snohomish County on January 15 after traveling from Wuhan City, China, where an outbreak of 2019-nCoV has been underway since December 2019. As of the morning of January 21, there were 300 cases worldwide but that number is likely to grow.

The Washington patient developed symptoms and was seen at a clinic in Snohomish County. Specimens were collected and sent to the CDC for testing. The patient is currently being observed at Providence Regional Medical Center Everett.

“Last night, the Snohomish Health District coordinated with local partners to safely transport the patient to Providence Regional Medical Center in Everett. This is all being done following our jointly developed infectious disease protocols. No one wants to be the first in the nation in these types of situations, but these are the types of situations that public health and its partners train and prepare for. Because of this, everything has been going along quite smoothly,” said Dr. Chris Spitters, Health Officer, Snohomish Health District.

TOOLS

[RSS](#)

[Notify Me®](#)

[View Archived](#)

CATEGORIES

- [All Categories](#)
- [Announcements](#)
- [Cold Weather Shelter Updates](#)
- [Health Alerts](#)
- [Home](#)
- [MRC Public](#)
- [Snohomish County Medical Reserve Corps](#)
- [Snohomish County Medical Reserve Corps - Urgent](#)
- [Snohomish Health District Media Releases](#)

The outbreak in Wuhan, China was originally linked to a large seafood and animal market, suggesting a possible zoonotic origin to the outbreak. Human to human spread has been confirmed. How easily or sustainably this virus is spreading remains unknown.

A multi-agency press conference is happening today at 2 p.m. at the state Public Health Laboratories in Shoreline, where members of the media will be able to ask questions. Participants will include Governor Jay Inslee, Secretary of Health John Wiesman, DOH, CDC, Providence Health, and Snohomish Health District.

A hotline is being set up for members of the public who have questions and when it is activated, we will send out an additional notice to media and distribute on our social media channels.

← **Previous**

[Update on response to 2019 novel coronavirus in Washington state](#)

Next ⇒

[Two Flu-Related Deaths, Additional Hepatitis A Cases in Snohomish County](#)

OTHER NEWS IN SNOHOMISH HEALTH DISTRICT MEDIA RELEASES

DRIVE-UP COVID-19 TESTING APPOINTMENTS IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Posted on: April 27, 2020

HEALTH DISTRICT UPDATES ON PLANNING, TESTING AND DATA

Posted on: April 24, 2020

HEALTH DISTRICT GUIDANCE FOR BUSINESSES, UPDATES ON TESTING AND DATA

Posted on: April 17, 2020

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING, APRIL 14

Posted on: April 13, 2020

HEALTH DISTRICT ADAPTS TO CHANGES IN COMMUNITY-BASED TESTING

Posted on: April 10, 2020

CELEBRATING TOGETHER, JUST PHYSICALLY APART

Posted on: April 9, 2020

THE IMPORTANCE OF STAYING HOME, STAYING HEALTHY

Posted on: April 3, 2020

NEW AND UPDATED HEALTH OFFICER ORDERS FOR SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Posted on: March 31, 2020

NEW DRIVE-THRU COVID-19 TESTING OPTION IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY