Health Advisory – Coronavirus

On behalf of the University of La Verne, the Student Health Center is issuing a Health Advisory.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is closely monitoring an outbreak caused by a new coronavirus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. Chinese authorities identified the new coronavirus which has resulted in hundreds of confirmed cases in China, including cases outside Wuhan, with additional cases being identified in a growing number of countries internationally. The first cased in the United States was announced on January 21, 2020. No students, faculty or staff at the University of La Verne have reported symptoms or have been treated for the coronavirus.

What is the coronavirus?

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some causing respiratory illness in people and others circulating among animals including camels, cats and bats. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can evolve and infect people and then spread between people, such as has been seen with Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS). The 2019 coronavirus outbreak (2019-nCoV) is a new strain of coronavirus that has not been previously identified in humans.

When person-to-person spread has occurred with SARS and MERS, it is thought to happen via respiratory droplets with close contacts, similar to how influenza and other respiratory pathogens spread. The situation with regard to the 2019-nCoV is still unclear. While severe illness, including illness resulting in several deaths, has been reported in china, other patients have had milder illness and been discharged. While originally thought to be spreading from animal-to-person, there are indications that limited person-to-person spread is happening. It is unclear how easily this virus is spreading between people.

The confirmation that some limited person-to-person spread with this virus is occurring in Asia raises the level of concern about this virus, but the CDC continues to believe the risk of 2019-nCoV to the American public at large remains low at this time.

What are the symptoms?

Most people with the illness report symptoms very similar to the flu, including runny nose, headache, cough, sore throat, fever, and shortness of breath.

What should I do if I feel sick?

IF YOU ARE ILL AND HAVE TRAVELED TO WUHAN, CHINA (ADJACENT PROVINCES) IN THE LAST 14 DAYS, CALL STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES IMMEDIATEDLY AT 909-448-4619. AFTER HOURS PLEASE SEEK MEDICAL ASSISTANCE THROUGH AN URGENT CARE OR HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOM.

Student Health Services advises persons who recently traveled from Wuhan (in the past 14 days) or have had close contact with someone suspected of having an infection with the new coronavirus to watch for flu-like symptoms (fever, muscle or body aches, sore throat and cough, fatigue, headaches). **If you have recently traveled to Wuhan, China and feel sick with fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, you should seek medical care right away.** *Before you go the Student Health Center, a doctor's office, Urgent Care or an Hospital Emergency Room, call ahead and tell them about your recent travel and your symptoms.* ***If experiencing symptoms, use a face mask, and call (909) 448-4619 to consult with a medical provider.***

What are important additional steps you can take?

- avoid contact with others if feeling ill and/or have symptoms
- contact Student Health Services at (909) 448-4619 for a telephone consultation if you are feeling ill
- do not travel while sick
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing
- wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available
- if any student plans to travel to Wuhan, China, we would advise that you discuss travel to Wuhan with your healthcare provider who is familiar with the current outbreak. Providers at the Student Health Center will be happy to provide advice

After-hours (nights/weekends) Medical Assistance:

Student can also seek care at:

- Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center – 1798 N. Garey Ave., Pomona, CA 91767 (909) 865-9500
- San Antonio Community Hospital – 999 San Bernardino Road, Upland, CA 91786 (909) 985-2811

If you are ill, do not attempt to drive yourself to seek medical care, call an ambulance for assistance and alert them to your symptoms and if you had recent travel to Wuhan.

For more information:

CDC Website: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/index.html

LA County Website: http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/nCorona2019.htm