

Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health

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County Executive



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Public Health Alert

2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

January 24, 2020 4pm

Please Distribute to Emergency Medicine, Pediatrics, Family Planning, Primary Care, Infectious Diseases, Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Laboratory Medicine, Infection Control, and college health offices.

Background:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has reported the first travel-related case of 2019-nCoV in the United States on January 21st and the second on January 24th. This novel coronavirus was first identified in late-December 2019 in Wuhan City, China. Currently there is no vaccine or specific treatment for 2019-nCoV except for supportive care.

There is an ongoing investigation to determine more about this outbreak. This is a rapidly evolving situation and information will be updated as it becomes available. Healthcare providers are advised to check www.cdc.gov/coronavirus frequently.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- Dutchess County Communicable Disease Control must be contacted immediately at (845) 486-3402 (m-f, 9-5) or (845) 431-6465 (after hours) whenever a patient of concern presents including:**
 - Reporting possible 2019-nCoV cases
 - Testing, specimen collection, and shipping
 - Patient movement to or from a facility
- CDC infection control guidance:**
 - Screening protocols to identify people of concern. Clinics, urgent care, and emergency departments should ask about travel history and post signage prominently at entrances. Poster is available at DutchessNY.gov/Coronavirus
 - Patients of concern should be asked to wear a surgical mask as soon as they are identified.
 - Evaluate patient in an airborne infection isolation room, or if no AIIR available, a private room with the door closed.
 - PPE: Use standard precautions plus contact, airborne (N95 or PAPR or better), and eye.
 - Thorough environmental cleaning and disinfection with EPA-registered, hospital-grade disinfectant. Routine treatment of waste, linens, and food service items.

Dutchess County Communicable Disease
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