



RÍKISLÖGREGLUSTJÓRINN

ALMANNAVARNADEILD



Applies to: Media, Department of Civil Protection and Emergency Management, administration and Chief Epidemiologist

STATUS REPORT

Date: 07.02.2020

Time: 12:30

Location: Coordination center /Directorate of Health /Chief Epidemiologist

Uncertainty phase due to the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

Event description

At the end of December 2019, reports of severe lung infections came from the city of Wuhan, China. Subsequently, it was confirmed that an unknown coronary virus variant was the cause, now called 2019-nCoV. It is now confirmed that the virus is transmitted between humans and can cause serious illness.

We will continue to work on uncertainty phase according to the Icelandic Pandemic for Influenza Preparedness Plan. If needed it is possible to activate the preparedness plan for ports and ships, and the plan for international airports alongside the pandemic plan.

No case of the 2019-nCoV has been reported in Iceland.

Summary

- National Commissioner of the Icelandic Police / Department of Civil Protection and Emergency Management
- Directorate of Health / Chief Epidemiologist. [Information page](#)
- Landspítali – department of infectious diseases
- Primary Health Care of the Capital Area
- Red Cross
- ICE-SAR
- Health care institutions
- Heilsuvera
- Laeknavaktin – doctors on call service
- International transport by air and ship through designated ports
- The Icelandic Road and Coastal Administration
- Confederation of Icelandic Enterprise
- Icelandic Medicines Agency
- Icelandic Coastal Guard
- Customs
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Status

Coronavirus – spread abroad

Today, on 7th of February 2020 cases of the 2019-nCoV has been confirmed in 31,503 individuals and about 638 individuals are deceased (2.0%). One death outside of China has been reported, in the Philippines. According to [John Hopkins](#) 1,693 individuals have recovered from the illness.

The cases reported are from China (31,217), Taiwan (16), Thailand (25), Australia (15), Malaysia (14), Singapore (30), Japan (86), South-Korea (24), Vietnam (12), Nepal (1), Philippines (3), Sri Lanka (1), Cambodia (1), India (3), United Arab Emirates (5), France (6), Germany (13), Finland (1), Italy (3), UK (3), Russia (2), Spain (1), Sweden (1), Belgium (1), USA (12), Canada (7). The vast majority of cases originate in China

[See worldwide situation update on ECDC's website.](#)

Iceland

- The status is unchanged. No case has been reported in Iceland.
- This morning, during the daily meeting responses and ongoing measures and ways to prevent the virus from reaching Iceland were discussed.
- Today, samples from 10 individuals have been analyzed with regards to the 2019-nCoV, all of them turned out to be negative.
- Today, the Chief Epidemiologist will meet with the Confederation of Icelandic Enterprises, discussing response plans of Icelandic companies.
- Meeting was held with the regional and district epidemiologists and all regional police chiefs. Operations at Keflavik airport and other international airports were discussed. It was decided that authorities at Keflavik airport and the Department of Civil Protection and Emergency Management would better investigate all possible measures to reduce the risk of the virus transmitting to Iceland.

Department of Civil Protection and Emergency Management

Coordinates responses in collaboration with the Directorate of Health / the Chief Epidemiologist. The emergency response is unchanged: we continue working at uncertainty phase, according to the Icelandic Pandemic for Influenza Preparedness Plan.

The Directorate of Health/ The Chief Epidemiologist

Coordination of actions and guidelines for the public, healthcare professionals, tourism and businesses. Instructions are updated when necessary.

Landspítali – The National University Hospital of Iceland

Attends daily coordination meetings. The department of infectious diseases at Landspítali now has the kit to detect the 2019-nCoV coronavirus. Today, samples from 10 individuals have been analyzed with regards to the 2019-nCoV, all of them turned out to be negative

Primary Health Care of the Capital Area

Regional and district epidemiologist of the capital area attends daily consultation meetings.

International airports, Keflavik, Akureyri, Egilsstaðir and Reykjavik and designated ports

Information is disseminated daily by ISAVIA to airport employees. The Coast Guard sends information to foreign arriving ships. The Customs and the Coast Guard review the crew and passenger lists, which contains health information. Text message to all arriving passengers at Keflavik airport was activated 4th of February.



RÍKISLÖGREGLUSTJÓRINN

ALMANNAVARNADEILD



The tourism industry

The Icelandic Tourist Board is ready to disseminate information through its databases to the tourism industry. Text message are sent to passengers arriving at Keflavik airport. [Guidelines for frontline service staff](#) are available on Directorates of Health webpage. The Icelandic Travel Industry and the Icelandic Tourist Board have translated the guidelines to Spanish and Polish.

Healthcare facilities and the police in regional Iceland

Coordination meeting with the Chief Epidemiologist and district Chiefs of Police was held this morning.

Laeknavaktin – doctors on call service

Telephone service 1700 has started. For foreign phone numbers +354 544-4113.

Shares information and ensures 24/7 response. Consults with the Primary Health Care of the Capital Area to ensure 24/7 on call doctor. The ER in Fossvogur has received such requests.

Red Cross

Assists with assessment of isolation facilities for tourists in each region of Iceland, in coordination with Landspítali. The Red Cross provides psychosocial support to families in quarantine. A consultation group has been activated for crisis counselling.

ICE-SAR

Disseminates information to tourists at www.safetravel.is Works on registering new members into the SAR-EYE.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Have posted on social media (see [Facebook](#)) and on their website where Icelanders are advised to register with the civil service at help@mfa.is. In this way, the embassy will increase the number of Icelanders that they can easily reach if needed. Icelandic authorities are not planning on transferring Icelandic citizens home in an organized manners.

Icelandic Medicines Agency

Is in contact with pharmaceutical companies and monitors supplies of essential medicines.