



RÍKISLÖGREGLUSTJÓRINN

ALMANNAVARNADEILD



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

STATUS REPORT

Date: 10.02.2020

Time: 12:00

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 10th of February 2020 cases of the 2019-nCoV has been confirmed in 40,553 individuals and about 910 are deceased (2.2%). Two deaths outside of China have been reported, in Hong Kong and the Philippines. According to [John Hopkins](#) 3,497 individuals have recovered from the illness.

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

The cases reported are from China (40,170), Hong Kong (36), Macao (10), Singapore (43), Thailand (32), South-Korea (27), Japan (26), Taiwan (18), Malaysia (18), Vietnam (14), United Arab Emirates (7), India (3), Philippines (3), Cambodia (1), Nepal (1), Sri Lanka (1), Australia (15), USA (12), Canada (7), Germany (14), France (11), UK (4), Italy (3), Russia (2), Spain (2), Belgium (1), Finland (1), and Sweden (1).

The vast majority of cases originate in China.

A total of 37 individuals have been diagnosed in Europe, whereof 12 have infected within Germany, 6 in France and 2 in the UK

Iceland

- The status is unchanged. No case has been reported in Iceland.
- Two samples were tested this past weekend and both turned out to be negative.
- Today, samples from 12 individuals have been analyzed with regards to the 2019-nCoV, all of them turned out to be negative.
- According to ECDC's risk assessment for the 2019-nCoV, the risk of widespread epidemic is low in European countries.
- International travel restrictions are not recommended.
- As stated in the status report from February 7th it was decided that authorities at Keflavik airport and the Department of Civil Protection and Emergency Management would better analyze all possible measures to reduce the risk of the virus transmitting to Iceland. The analysis has started, with regards to technical, operational, and legal aspects. Previous experience of such actions from other countries will be examined.

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. Updated inventory on protective clothing for health care professionals and responders, as well as inventory for essential medicines.

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 12 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.



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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.

Healthcare facilities and the police in regional Iceland

Coordination meeting with the Chief Epidemiologist and district Chiefs of Police was held last Friday. Next meeting is planned at the end of this week.

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](https://www.facebook.com/mfa.is)) 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.