

Aus Ship P&I

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Friday, 31 January 2020

2019-2020 CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

AUSTRALIA'S MARITIME RESPONSE

In light of the 2019-2020 outbreak of Novel Coronavirus [2019-nCoV] in China, the Australian Government has responded by releasing the following advice/information to help combat the spread of the virus: <https://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov>

Further to the above, Aus Ship P&I has come to understand that additional measures are now being introduced in some Ports across the State of NSW to combat the risk of the virus spreading from vessels which have recently called into mainland China. Ports in other states across Australia are expected to follow suit in due course.

When completing pre-arrival reporting to the Australian Biosecurity Department, (usually undertaken via the MARS system: <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/avm/vessels/mars>) vessels will now be issued with the attached fact sheet concerning the virus.

The Biosecurity Department is also requesting ships agents clarify the following information, should their vessels have recently called into a port in mainland China:

1. *The Date the vessel departed China;*
2. *Ports called into between departing China and arriving in Australia;*
3. *Declarations as to whether any sick personnel are on board;*
4. *Declaration of the previous 5 ports of call;*

Further to the above, where vessels affected berth in Australian ports, vessels may expect heightened bio-security/quarantine measures being implemented; including:

- Australian Biosecurity Department personnel attending the vessel wearing full body protection /HAZMAT style gear;
- Stevedores wearing masks and other protective gear, and being instructed to keep distance and avoid contact with crew where possible;
- Ships agents may carry out procedures from the wharf instead of boarding the affected vessels, so as to minimise potential contamination risk;
- Seafarers aboard affected vessels may be barred from leaving the vessel;

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Ship owners/managers/agents with further specific queries are advised to contact coronavirus@agriculture.gov.au for further information.

As matters concerning Coronavirus continue to develop, please do not hesitate to contact us for the latest developments on the Australian Maritime response to this issue.

Yours sincerely,

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Novel Coronavirus Information for Travellers Arriving in Australia from China

The Australian Government Department of Health is aware of cases of a novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) associated with the region of Wuhan, Hubei Province China.

What is coronavirus?

Coronaviruses are a type of virus that can affect humans and animals. Some coronaviruses cause illnesses similar to the common cold and others cause more serious illnesses, including Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS).

What is novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)?

There is a new coronavirus affecting people who have recently been in the area of Wuhan, Hubei Province China. At the moment, this coronavirus is called 'novel coronavirus' or '2019-nCoV'.

Most of those infected have had a link with Wuhan, Hubei Province China. It's likely that the coronavirus comes from an animal. While the infection does not appear to spread easily between people, there are cases of person-to-person transmission in the community and in health care settings. There have been cases of 2019-nCoV reported in some other Chinese provinces and other countries.

What are the symptoms of 2019-nCoV?

Symptoms may include fever, cough, sore throat, nausea/vomiting, and difficulty breathing. Difficulty breathing is a sign of possible pneumonia and requires immediate medical attention.

It can take up to 14 days for symptoms to show after a person has been infected.

What do I do if I am sick right now?

If you have fever, sweats, chills or difficulty breathing please let a Biosecurity Officer at the airport know now.

What do I do if I get sick while in Australia?

If you are sick after arriving from China:

- It's important to see a doctor if you are ill or go to a hospital if you are very ill. If you've been in Wuhan, Hubei Province, call ahead and explain that you've been in the area, so the doctor can prepare.
- Make sure you tell the doctor or hospital staff about your travel history.
- If you are coughing, ask for a mask to wear while you are at the doctor or hospital.

You should also:

- Wash your hands frequently
- Use good cough etiquette - cover your cough or sneeze and wash your hands afterwards

Where can I get more information about 2019-nCoV?

Visit the Australian Government Department of Health's website at www.health.gov.au



致从中国抵澳旅客有关新型冠状病毒的信息

澳大利亚联邦政府卫生部现已知悉多起与中国湖北省武汉地区相关联的新型冠状病毒(2019-nCoV)病例。

什么是冠状病毒？

冠状病毒是一种能够侵染人类和动物的病毒。一些冠状病毒可引起与普通感冒相似的疾病，而另一些冠状病毒则可引起更为严重的疾病，包括严重急性呼吸系统综合症（SARS）和中东呼吸系统综合症（MERS）。

什么是新型冠状病毒（2019-nCoV）？

在最近到访过湖北省武汉地区的旅客中，有人感染了一种新型冠状病毒。目前，这种冠状病毒被称为“新型冠状病毒”或“2019 新型冠状病毒”。

大多数感染者都与武汉有关联。该冠状病毒很可能来自动物。目前怀疑该病毒来源于武汉市的一个活体动物市场，但尚未获得证实。虽然这种病毒似乎并不容易在人与人之间传播，但在社区和医疗机构中已出现人传人的病例。目前，在中国其他一些省份以及其他国家已有感染新型冠状病毒病例的报道。

感染 2019 新型冠状病毒后会有什么症状？

症状包括发烧、咳嗽、喉咙痛和呼吸困难。如果出现呼吸困难则表明可能患上肺炎，需立即就医。

如果感染了该病毒，最多可能需要 14 天才会出现症状。

目前已生病，那该怎么办？

如果出现发烧、出汗、发冷或呼吸困难，请立即通知机场的生物安全检验官。

如果在澳期间生病了，该怎么办？

如果从中国来澳后生病了：

- 如果生病了，就去看医生，但如果病得很重，就要去医院。如果来澳前曾到过武汉地区，则要提前打电话向医生说明，这样医生就可以有所准备。
- 确保将此前的旅行信息告知医生或医院的工作人员。
- 如果咳嗽，请在看医生或去医院时戴上口罩。

此外，还应该：

- 经常洗手
- 注意咳嗽礼仪——掩面咳嗽或打喷嚏，然后洗手

在哪里可以获得有关 2019 新型冠状病毒的更多信息？

敬请访问澳大利亚联邦政府卫生部网站：www.health.gov.au