



# Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

## Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. The virus that causes COVID-19 is a novel coronavirus that was first identified during an investigation into a December 2019 outbreak in Wuhan, China.

## What are the symptoms?

Symptoms of the COVID-19 can include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Difficulty breathing

## Have there been cases of COVID-19 in the U.S.?

Yes. The first case of COVID-19 in the U.S. was reported on January 21, 2020. There are currently no cases in Pennsylvania but that is expected to change as testing expands.

## What can you do?

You can help protect yourself and prevent the spread of germs with the following common-sense steps:

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay at home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash; if there is no tissue available, cough or sneeze into your shoulder or sleeve.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

## Is there a vaccine?

There is currently no vaccine to protect against COVID-19. If you think you may have been exposed to COVID-19, contact your healthcare provider immediately.

## What should I do if I have travel plans to an international location affected by COVID-19?

The CDC recommends that travelers avoid all nonessential travel to China, Iran, South Korea, Italy and Japan. If you have travelled to one of these destinations in the past 14 days and feel sick with fever, cough or difficulty breathing, you should seek medical care.

For more information regarding COVID-19, including ongoing updates, visit [www.alleghenycounty.us/coronavirus](http://www.alleghenycounty.us/coronavirus), or call ACHD at 412-687-2243 to speak to a department representative.