

The COVID-19 Pandemic

March 10, 2020



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Moderator



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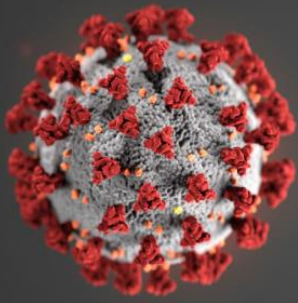
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A bit of biology and context

SARS-CoV-2 as causative agent of
COVID19

Coronavirus like the one causing
SARS and MERS

How COVID19 is spread

Droplets: coughing, sneezing

Possibly airborne

Thus prevention = frequent hand washing (soap & water or alcohol-based cleanser) ; coughing in the crook of elbow; avoiding sick contacts; if sick oneself, avoiding others

Current* scope of the problem

Worldwide cases: 118,000

Worldwide deaths: 4264

Worldwide recovered: 65,000+

US cases: 761

US deaths: 27

US tests: only ~1600 to date

**2 pm EDT, March 10, 2020*

The influenza perspective

US:

19 million estimated influenza cases in this season
(2019-20)

10,000 deaths , 180,000 hospitalizations

Transmissibility and case fatality of COVID19 is
thought to be higher than influenza

“Spread to all continents except Antarctica”

Country, Other	Total Cases	New Cases	Total Deaths	New Deaths	Total Recovered	Active Cases
China	80,761	+26	3,136	+17	60,113	17,512
Italy	10,149	+977	631	+168	1,004	8,514
Iran	8,042	+881	291	+54	2,731	5,020
S. Korea	7,513	+35	58	+5	247	7,208
Spain	1,674	+443	35	+5	135	1,504
France	1,606	+194	30		12	1,564
Germany	1,317	+93	2		18	1,297
USA	754	+50	28	+2	15	711
<i>Diamond Princess</i>	696		7		245	444
Japan	581	+51	10	+1	102	469
Switzerland	497	+123	3	+1	3	491
Netherlands	382	+61	4			378
UK	373	+52	6	+1	18	349

Responses to date

Testing

Contact tracing: individuals & cluster ID

Quarantine

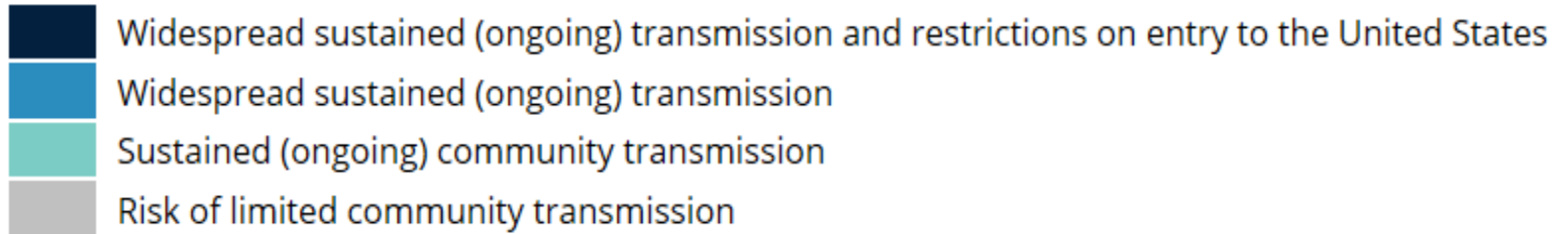
Mandatory distancing

Social Distancing

Personal prevention practices

Responses to date

Risk Assessment Level for COVID-19



China & Iran (level 3 travel notice)

South Korea & Italy (level 3 travel notice)

Japan (level 2 travel notice)

Hong Kong (level 1 travel notice)

Warning - Level 3, Avoid Nonessential Travel

Alert - Level 2, Practice Enhanced Precautions

Watch - Level 1, Practice Usual Precautions

What is likely to happen

Plateauing in early countries: China & S. Korea

Rising in others: US, Europe

Late Detection in the US likely to cause further
disruption: school closures, travel
restrictions, public concern

Economic impacts and recovery

Stock market drop, free flow of people,
goods and trade affected

Confidence affected

Governments and finance institutions need
to be prepared

Local planning

Protection & avoidance at the personal and institutional levels

Follow CDC and local health dept. guidance

Role of academic health institutions

Education of the public: combat misinformation, prejudice & conspiracy

Safety of students, staff, health personnel

Reconsidering meetings & travel: reorganize, be creative, enlist the broadest communities and coalitions

Avoid siege mentality & lockdown mode: be attentive to personal and institutional stress

Balancing safety with service

Role of academic institutions



Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Interim Guidance for Administrators of US Institutions of Higher Education

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-ihe-response.html>

Next steps

- Getting back to a feeling of normal is important and will happen
- Preparedness might be part of the new normal
- The world is not ending (yet)
- This is an opportunity to be smart, compassionate, and be our best public health selves

Important resources

- [CDC guidance: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fspecific-groups%2Fguidance-business-response.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fspecific-groups%2Fguidance-business-response.html)
- <https://www.thelancet.com/coronavirus>
- www.cugh.org

Thank you:

- Our global health workers worldwide who work in extraordinarily difficult conditions for the good of humanity.
- Our frontline health workers who see patients and put themselves at personal risk.
- Conversations with experts in this and other fields which have helped inform and educate my personal and professional perspective. Particular thanks to Dr. Uzma Khan of IRD for her insights and constructive feedback on an earlier draft of this presentation.

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Q & A



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