



Coronavirus outbreak: current situation

World Travel Protection, part of Cover-More Group, is closely monitoring the situation in China and elsewhere and will provide regular updates on the outbreak of novel coronavirus 2019-nCoV.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the coronavirus outbreak a global health emergency of international concern. The WHO is in regular consultation with Chinese authorities and has published the following figures.

GLOBALLY

43103 confirmed

CHINA

42708 confirmed

7333 severe

1017 deaths

OUTSIDE OF CHINA

395 confirmed

24 countries

WHO RISK ASSESSMENT

CHINA

Very High

REGIONAL LEVEL

High

GLOBAL LEVEL

High

*Current WHO facts at
11 February 2020*

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) maintains a 'Warning-Level 3' travel health notice.

This is the highest of three notice levels, indicating the US CDC recommends avoidance of any non-essential travel to China.

Chinese authorities have halted all modes of transport within and out of Wuhan and other cities in Hubei province, including buses, subways, trains, and the international airport.

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>



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Current status on the ground in China

Our local intelligence indicates that the Chinese Government has enacted plans whereby medical facilities have been specifically identified to receive or assess any patient with at risk symptoms.

The majority of hospitals can see patients at 'fever clinics' and then referred to the designated treatment hospitals. This includes the local appointed Infectious disease hospital, when this is not enough, adjustments are being made at cities depending on the number of cases.

- Wuhan has a dedicated coronavirus hospital
- Beijing has three identified hospitals for coronavirus treatment

The availability of testing for the novel coronavirus within major cities in China has been extended, making the diagnosis or exclusion much quicker.

Transportation is severely impacted this includes availability of taxis and transportation provided by government i.e. trains and the bus network. Postal and delivery services are also severely impacted.

There are extensive travel restrictions in place and trips are taken longer than usual, with quarantine and temperature screening at airports, train/bus stations and even office building or residential areas. Flights in and out of China are being cancelled.

The population of Wuhan is under lockdown and this includes medical personnel. The Chinese authorities have reshuffled medical personnel from all over the country and this has created a shortage of medical personnel at most medical facilities. There are also issues with the availability of medical supplies and medication. All medical personnel and medical supplies are being directed by Chinese authorities with military support. For example, the availability of face masks is an issue.

Chinese National Holidays have been extended to slow down the population flow.

Gatherings at any public place are being restricted or cancelled. As of 30 January 2020, stores will be closed.

How we can help

The Chinese health system is very large and extremely complex under normal circumstances, let alone during this public health emergency.

Our on-the-ground presence with our Shanghai medical assistance platform places World Travel Protection at a great advantage to support you, your employees and customers.

- Navigation of the Chinese health system and the most appropriate referral based on location
- Quickly obtaining and translating medical reports
- Immediate updates to changes in health policy within China regarding the novel coronavirus public health emergency
- Assisting with purchasing supplies unless medication
- Transport solutions
- The ability to deal directly with treating clinicians
- An ability to nuance patient care during uncertain times
- Ability to provide or source high level medical repatriation options

Contact us

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