



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for January 30, 2020

Coronavirus updates: The latest news on the outbreak and the global response

(NBC) There were more than 7,700 confirmed cases of the coronavirus in China on Thursday as the death toll reached 170. Here's what else is new today.

- Death toll in China climbs to 170; more than 7,700 confirmed cases
- 195 Americans evacuated from area near Wuhan —
 - More evacuation flights are on the way
 - Other countries moving to evacuate their citizens
- Australians quarantine hundreds
- India and the Philippines confirm first cases
- Japan reports three new cases
- WHO to hold a new meeting to discuss outbreak
- A number of airlines halted flights to and from China
- 6,000 passengers on a cruise ship being held in Italy
- Russia closes its border with China
- Chinese football team isolated in Brisbane; games being cancelled or delayed
- President announces formation of a "corona Virus Task Force"

Full story: <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/coronavirus-updates-latest-news-outbreak-global-response-n1126326#anchor-RussiaclosesFarEastborderwithChina>

Related: [U.S. evacuees from China placed on 72-hour 'hold' at California military base for medical evaluation](#)

Coronavirus Preparedness Starts at the Clinic Level *Expert urges clinicians to have proper equipment, masks available*

(MedPage) As public health agencies prepare on a broader scale for cases of novel coronavirus, clinicians should be sure they are equally as prepared within the clinic and hospital setting with proper equipment.

While prior research indicated [nosocomial transmission was common during the SARS outbreak](#), so far, it has been limited with this current outbreak of novel coronavirus. According to a World Health Organization press briefing Wednesday, 14 healthcare workers have been infected, but there have been [no reports of "hospital-wide" infection clusters](#) outside of Wuhan, China, the outbreak's epicenter.

At a recent press briefing, CDC officials emphasized the [importance of following appropriate infection control procedures](#) when treating patients with novel coronavirus. The CDC's interim infection prevention and control recommendations for [patients under investigation for novel coronavirus](#) state that healthcare personnel should use standard precautions, contact precautions, airborne precautions, and eye protection.

While patients should be masked, hopefully prior to "walking in the front door," clinicians should also be masked with either a [N95 respirator](#) or a [PAPR](#), a Powered Air Purifying Respirator, said Weber, who is also a spokesperson for the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA). "In order to wear a N95 respirator, you need to be medically-cleared and fit-tested," he said.

But there are no firm guidelines on how long to wear these masks. Weber said that purified air respirators have a "noise or light, so you know when the batteries are going dead," but a clinician could wear them for hours, dependent on battery life. Full story: <https://www.medpagetoday.com/infectiousdisease/infectioncontrol/84612>

2019 Novel Coronavirus Stakeholder Listening Session Today 4:45 pm ET

On **Thursday, January 30 at 4:45 pm ET** the HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) is conducting a stakeholder listening session on issues surrounding the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV). During the call, they will discuss medical countermeasures challenges as well as next steps and opportunities to strengthen health security during this outbreak. ASPR invites you to participate in this important event on behalf of your organization.

Please register in advance for the 2019 Novel Coronavirus Stakeholder Listening Session by submitting an email to ASPRStakeholder@hhs.gov. They will reply prior to the event with the dial-in information. Notes will be available after the call. -----

Region's first potential cases of coronavirus reported at Miami University *CDC says risk remains low*

(KyForward News) - Jan 29 - Miami (OH) University Student Health Services have notified the Butler County General Health District (BCGHD) in Ohio of two possible cases of the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV). Both possible cases had recently traveled and returned from China. Both possible cases are not severely ill and currently in isolation to keep the illness from spreading. Samples were sent to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Monday afternoon.

Public health officials have described the immediate health risk to the campus community as low. BCGHD continues to work closely with Miami University Student Health Services and the Ohio Department of Health to monitor the novel (new) coronavirus that has emerged from Wuhan, China, over the past few weeks.

Story: <https://www.kyforward.com/regions-first-potential-cases-of-coronavirus-reported-at-miami-university-cdc-says-risk-remains-low/>

Johns Hopkins Health Security Update Extracts from January 30, 2020

Early Transmission Dynamics in Wuhan, China, of Novel Coronavirus–Infected Pneumonia (*New England Journal of Medicine*) The initial cases of novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)–infected pneumonia (NCIP) occurred in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China, in December 2019 and January 2020. We analyzed data on the first 425 confirmed cases in Wuhan to determine the epidemiologic characteristics of NCIP.

Coronavirus ‘rumour’ crackdown by Wuhan police slammed by China’s top court (*South China Morning Post*) China’s top court has lashed out at police in the epicentre of a deadly coronavirus outbreak, arguing that Wuhan officers should not have punished a group of people in a medical discussion group for “spreading rumours” about the illness.

Leveraging Cheminformatics to Bolster the Control of Chemical Warfare Agents and their Precursors (*Strategic Trade Review*) International frameworks and national legislation contain lists of controlled chemicals that can be employed as chemical warfare agents or precursors for their synthesis. The development and wide adoption of a cheminformatics tool could overcome several practical problems inherent to the way in which the identification of such chemicals is currently conducted, namely: the same chemical can be identified with a multitude of synonyms; different versions of the same chemical, for instance isotopically labeled versions, have different registry numbers; some lists define whole families of related chemicals of concern in a single entry, thus complicating certification of compliance; and lists of controlled chemicals are subject to change and must be kept current.

[Related - Rumor Control: (from [Factcheck.org](https://www.factcheck.org/)) - Multiple social media posts are spreading a bogus conspiracy theory about the deadly Wuhan virus. The posts falsely claim that the virus was made in a lab, it has been patented and a vaccine is already available. That’s not true; the patents the posts refer to pertain to different viruses.

Keep kids safe around home fireplaces; prevent accidental burns with these safety tips

(UK Healthcare) Fire can be friend or foe. We often think about fire as it relates to warmth thereby making it our friend during those long winter months. As the cold temperatures arrive, fire used to heat our homes may be a daily occurrence. When we use fire as heat source, we have to be mindful of how dangerous it can be and take the appropriate actions to keep everyone safe.

Most burn-related injuries occur to children under age six. Every year more than 18,000 children are treated in emergency departments for burns resulting from contact with a fireplace, chimney or fireplace equipment.

Most burns occur to the hands or fingers. Depending on the severity, these burns can result in lifelong problems, possibly resulting in loss of function and poor cosmetic outcomes.

Young children are more at risk for several reasons. They can be unsteady as they learn to walk, often using surfaces within their reach to pull up. Little ones have slower reflexes and many not be able to move their hands away quickly when they touch something hot. They also have thinner skin on their palms, which can lead to more serious burn injuries.


Parents may not think of fireplaces when thinking of hazards in the home. Many aren’t aware of how hot the glass door can become thinking it would be similar to an oven door glass; but fireplace glass can be as hot as 500 degrees. It can take up to an hour to cool down after it is turned off.

Full story with Prevention Tips: <https://www.kyforward.com/keep-kids-safe-around-home-fireplaces-prevent-accidental-burns-with-these-safety-tips/>

Life Expectancy Rose Slightly In 2018, As Drug Overdose Deaths Fell

(NPR) For the first time since 2014, death rates in the U.S. declined and life expectancy showed a modest uptick, according to [new data](#) released in two reports Thursday by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Life expectancy at birth in 2018 was 78.7 years, 0.1 year longer than the previous year. It may seem like a small increase, but for a population of around 350 million, the shift represents improvements in the lives of many people

Learn more & listen to 3-minute podcast: <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2020/01/30/801016600/life-expectancy-rose-slightly-in-2018-as-drug-overdose-deaths-fell>



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The KHEREF Emergency Preparedness Update is assembled several times a week. When events make it necessary, the Update may be sent out several times a day to keep our hospital and the healthcare community advised on preparedness news and information. Most of this information is compiled from open sources, and where possible reference links will be provided. There is an archive of [Emergency Preparedness Updates available here](#). If you would like to add or delete, or have something you would like to contribute to a future edition of the Emergency Preparedness Update, please contact rbartlett@kyha.com (include your current email address). The preparedness program for the Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) and KHEREF are supported by US DHHS ASPR HPP funds through a contract with Kentucky Public Health.