

## Coronavirus Disease – COVID-19

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- The coronavirus outbreak has infected more than 75,700 people globally and killed 2,130, including eleven people outside mainland China.
- Hubei, the Chinese province at the center of the novel coronavirus outbreak, announced 349 new cases today, the lowest daily number of infections recorded by China in weeks.
- About a week ago, Hubei province began counting "clinically diagnosed patients" in their case numbers -- those patients who showed symptoms, even if they tested negative. It resulted in a huge spike of confirmed cases in the province. However, according to the latest government guidelines, "clinically diagnosed patients" will no longer be counted. A lab based diagnosis will now be required for a case to be counted as "confirmed." All other cases will be categorized as "suspected cases."
- During a press briefing, WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said *"the team on the ground in China includes experts from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the US National Institutes of Health, as well as experts from Singapore, Korea, Japan, Nigeria, Germany and Russia and the team members are experts in epidemiology, virology, clinical management, outbreak control and public health. Team members are working with Chinese counterparts to study transmissibility of the virus and the impact the of measures taken in China"*.
- The WHO is coordinating with the African Union to prepare the continent's countries for potential arrivals of people infected with coronavirus. Last week, the first case of coronavirus in Africa was confirmed when a case emerged in Egypt.
- Three additional coronavirus cases were confirmed in Iran today while five suspected others await examination, according to Iranian officials. Schools and universities in Qom province have closed down after the coronavirus deaths there.
- South Korean President Moon Jae-in and Chinese President Xi Jinping agreed to share information about the two countries' coronavirus clinical treatment experiences during a phone call today.
- Scientists have signed an open letter in support of Chinese colleagues who have been targeted on social media with conspiracy theories about the origins of the coronavirus.
- The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is partnering with Sanofi Pasteur and Johnson & Johnson to develop vaccines and therapeutics to use against COVID-19, according to press releases from the drug makers and HHS.
- Two passengers from the formerly quarantined cruise ship have died of the coronavirus, Japan's health ministry announced today. Both passengers were in their 80s and had been in hospital in Japan, but no further information is known about them at this stage.
- There are now 82 cases of the deadly coronavirus in South Korea, the government reported today, after a jump of 31 additional cases overnight. Of the new cases, 23 went to the same church as a previously confirmed patient and health officials now plan to test the entire congregation for the virus.

- China says 29 of its confirmed novel coronavirus cases involve foreign citizens. Among the total 29 cases: two have died, 18 were discharged and nine are still in isolation, receiving treatment.
- After two weeks in quarantine, 244 passengers disembarked from the Diamond Princess cruise ship in Yokohama, Japan, on Thursday, according to the Japanese Health Ministry.
- The UK government has organized an evacuation flight for British nationals on board the quarantined Diamond Princess cruise ship in Japan.
- Australia has extended its travel ban for arrivals from China into a fourth week. It will last until 29 February.

<b>Countries</b>	<b>Cases</b>	<b>Deaths</b>	<b>Recovered</b>
Mainland China	74,579	2,119	16,707
<i>Diamond Princess</i>	634	2	17
South Korea	104	1	16
Japan	92	1	20
Singapore	85	0	37
Hong Kong	67	2	5
Thailand	35	0	17
Taiwan	24	1	2
Malaysia	22	0	15
Germany	16	0	9
Vietnam	16	0	7
Australia	15	0	10
USA	15	0	3
France	12	1	5
Macao	10	0	5
U.K.	9	0	8
U.A.E	9	0	3
Canada	8	0	1
Iran	5	2	0
India	3	0	3
Philippines	3	1	2
Italy	3	0	0
Spain	2	0	2
Russia	2	0	2
Cambodia	1	0	1
Sri Lanka	1	0	1
Finland	1	0	1
Nepal	1	0	1
Sweden	1	0	0
Egypt	1	0	0
Belgium	1	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>75,779</b>	<b>2,130</b>	<b>16,917</b>

## Funding opportunities for researchers

Possible funding - The Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI):

- <https://www.euresearch.ch/en/euresearch-services/we-inform/newsletter/archive/e-alerts/e-alerts/article/imi-about-to-launch-a-call-on-the-new-coronavirus/>

Wellcome Trust:

- <https://wellcome.ac.uk/funding/schemes/epidemic-preparedness-covid-19>

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease:

- <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-AI-20-030.html>

## Coronavirus` global spread



## Sources

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<https://edition.cnn.com/asia/live-news/coronavirus-outbreak-02-20-20-intl-hnk/index.html>

<http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/covid-19>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/live/2020/feb/20/coronavirus-live-updates-diamond-princess-cruise-ship-japan-deaths-latest-news-china-infections>

<http://2019-coronavirus-tracker.com/index.html>

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