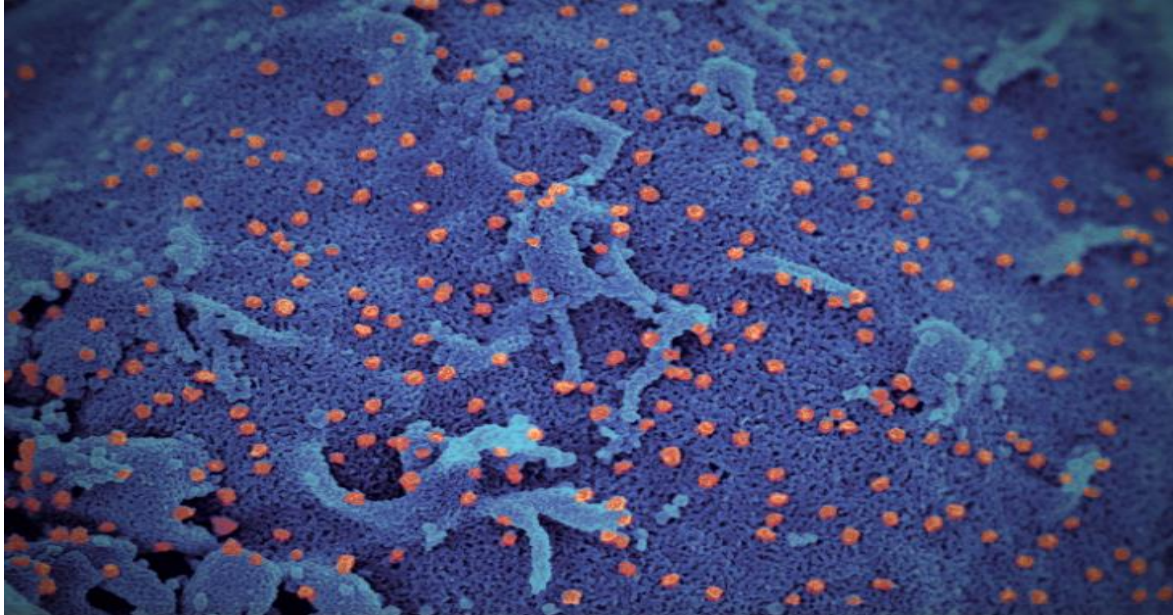# Coronavirus Disease – COVID-19
21.02.2020

- The coronavirus outbreak has infected more than 76,000 people globally and killed 2,200, including eleven people outside mainland China.

- Officials in Hubei, the province at the epicenter of the Covid-19 epidemic, have said officials will be punished for reducing the number of confirmed cases after changes to the way they are tallied resulted in widespread confusion.

- South Korea reports second death from coronavirus. The country also confirmed 111 more cases, raising the country`s total number of infections 204. The latest cases are mainly centered around a religious group in the southern city of Daegu.

- South Korea has put in place a range of new measures after a spike in coronavirus cases today, including designating "special care zones" and cancelling public events.

- Beijing has deployed a team from China's top law enforcement body to investigate how a coronavirus outbreak erupted in the country's cramped prison system. Ministry of Justice officials said today that 505 prisoners in five prisons in three provinces had contracted the virus.

- There have been two more coronavirus deaths in Iran, and 13 new cases of the virus, according to the country's health ministry. According to the latest laboratory reports, 13 more contractions of coronavirus have been confirmed, including 7 in Qom, 4 in Tehran, and two in Gilan.

- Evacuees from the stricken Diamond Princess cruise ship have tested positive for the virus after arriving in the US and Australia. Cruise goers who tested negative continue to disembark as more infections were reported today.

- Israel's Ministry of Health announced the first case of coronavirus in the country after a woman who was evacuated from the Diamond Princess in Japan was diagnosed with the disease, the Ministry said in a statement Friday morning. The woman was one of eleven passengers aboard the Diamond Princess flown back to Israel from Japan. The ten other passengers tested negative for the virus.

- Lebanon announced its first confirmed coronavirus case in the country, Lebanese Health Minister Hammad Hassan said during a news conference today. Hassan said "*The patient is a 45-year-old female who returned yesterday from the city of Qom in Iran, there are two more suspected cases but they are yet to be confirmed as positive*".

- Woman in her 30s is the ninth person in Canada to contract the disease. She never went to China, but had visited Iran. Health authorities say latest case could be "*indicator that there`s more widespread transmission*".

- Four police officers in Hong Kong who attended a banquet with a senior constable confirmed to be infected with the coronavirus have shown symptoms, while a policewoman in a separate case has been isolated after shadows were found in her lung scan.

- Clinical trials of an experimental antiviral drug said to "show promise" in treating the coronavirus are still far from fulfilling patient recruitment targets more than two weeks in, raising questions about whether they can be completed within previously projected timelines. "*Double-blind trials of Gilead Sciences' drug, remdesivir, are now taking place in 10 hospitals in Wuhan*", vice-minister of science and technology Xu Nanping said at a press conference today.
- In a statement today, Westerdam operator Holland America Line announced all 747 crew had tested negative for the coronavirus. It said that Cambodia had now cleared all passengers and crew of the virus.

Countries	Cases	Deaths	Recovered
Mainland China	75,467	2,236	18,665
Diamond Princess	634	2	17
South Korea	204	2	17
Japan	106	1	22
Singapore	85	0	37
Hong Kong	69	2	6
Thailand	35	0	17
USA	27	0	6
Taiwan	26	1	2
Malaysia	22	0	15
Iran	18	4	0
Australia	17	0	10
Germany	16	0	9
Vietnam	16	0	7
France	12	1	5
Macao	10	0	5
Canada	9	0	3
Italy	9	0	0
U.K.	9	0	8
U.A.E	9	0	3
India	3	0	3
Philippines	3	1	2
Spain	2	0	2
Russia	2	0	2
Israel	**1**	0	0
Lebanon	**1**	0	0
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
Total	76,819	2,250	18,889

Coronavirus under a microscope

The University of Hong Kong LKS Faculty of Medicine has released a new image of the virus. In the micrograph, the orange dots are viral particles, and the blue is the surface of the cell.

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

Sources

https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019
https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/#countries
https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3051789/hong-kong-policewoman-tested-coronavirus-after-lung
https://edition.cnn.com/asia/live-news/coronavirus-outbreak-02-21-20-intl-hnk/index.html
http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/covid-19
http://2019-coronavirus-tracker.com/index.html
https://www.theguardian.com/world/coronavirus-outbreak
https://gisanddata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6