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#### What is the novel coronavirus?

- An **outbreak of acute respiratory tract infection** linked to a novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is ongoing in China, with most cases **linked to** the city of Wuhan.
- Although a number of the initially reported cases occurred among people that had visited a wet market, human-to-human transmission is ongoing, and healthcare workers have also been infected.



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[www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/novel-coronavirus-china](http://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/novel-coronavirus-china)

## Advice to healthcare workers: management of patients with 2019-nCoV infection

### When to suspect an 2019-nCoV infection?

When assessing patients with a **severe acute respiratory disease** with onset within 14 days after returning from Wuhan **or**

with any respiratory symptoms, who had been in contact with people diagnosed with a 2019-nCoV infection.

### How to handle these patients?

- Provide the patient with a surgical mask; Separate from other patients in waiting areas; examine in a separate consultation room
- Apply standard precautions including hand hygiene and use personal protective equipment for contact and droplet transmission: surgical mask, eye protection, gown and gloves.
- Obtain diagnostic samples for 2019-nCoV.
- Report the case to public health authorities.

### Care of patients with 2019-nCoV infection:

- Admit to a single or isolation room.
- Use personal protective equipment for contact and droplet transmission: surgical mask, eye protection, gown and gloves.
- When performing aerosol-generating procedures, such as tracheal intubation, broncho-alveolar lavage, other diagnostic airway procedures and manual ventilation, use personal protective equipment for airborne transmission. A well-fitted FFP3 respirator, tight-fitting eye protection, gloves and long-sleeved impermeable protective gowns.
- Health care personnel should self-monitor for any respiratory symptoms and fever in the 14 days following the last exposure to a confirmed case.