Wuhan novel coronavirus (WN-CoV)

Guidance for Health Protection Teams (HPTs)

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Based on PHE published guidance (as of 22 January 2020)
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Investigation and initial clinical management of possible cases

The case definition being used across the UK reflects our current understanding from the limited epidemiology available and will likely be subject to change as new information emerges.

Possible case definition

If the patient satisfies epidemiological and clinical criteria, they are classified as a possible case.

- **Epidemiological criteria**
  - In the 14 days before the onset of illness:
    - travel to risk areas – see list here.
    - OR
    - contact with confirmed cases of WN-CoV (see definition below)

- **Clinical criteria**
  - severe acute respiratory infection requiring admission to hospital with clinical or radiological evidence of pneumonia or acute respiratory distress syndrome
  - OR
  - acute respiratory infection of any degree of severity (including at least one of: shortness of breath, cough or sore throat)

Clinicians should be alert to the possibility of atypical presentations in patients who are immunocompromised. Any individual reporting any contact with a confirmed case of WN-CoV, even if asymptomatic, should be reported to the local Health Protection Team immediately (see Appendix 1).

Contact definition

For the purposes of testing, contact with a case is defined as:

- living in the same household
  - OR
- direct contact with the case or their body fluids or their laboratory specimens
  - OR
- in the same room of a healthcare setting when an aerosol generating procedure is undertaken on the case
  - OR
- within 2 metres of the case in any setting, for any length of time

An assessment for avian influenza risk factors should also be carried out for every individual that has travelled to China in the 10 days prior to onset of fever and lower respiratory tract symptoms. See avian influenza guidance.
Guidance for Health Protection Teams (HPTs)

Actions for local HPTs

- Where the HPT is informed of a possible case presenting in primary care then:
  - Advise the GP to follow the primary care guidance in the HPS WN-CoV page.
  - Contact the local on-call infection specialist (ID physician or microbiologist / virologist) for advice to inform further actions.

- Where the HPT is informed of a possible case presenting in secondary care then advise the clinician to take a detailed travel and exposure history and to follow the secondary care guidance in the HPS WN-CoV page.

- If possible case definition is met for WN-CoV:
  - Notify HPS by telephone:
    - Office hours: HPS coronavirus incident management team, 0141 300 1414
    - Out of hours: HPS On Call - 0141 211 3600
  - Complete the Minimum Data Set Form and send to nss.hpscoronavirus@nhs.net. The form is available on SHPIR.
  - Enter possible case details on to the HPZone system using:
    - ‘Wuhan Novel Coronavirus’ as an infection
    - ‘Wuhan Novel Coronavirus’ as a context
  - Consider convening a PAG to coordinate further investigation and management.
  - Communicate possible cases testing results to HPS.
## Appendices

### Appendix 1 – Contacts in local Health Protection teams

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Office Hours Telephone Number</th>
<th>Out of Hours Telephone Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HPS</td>
<td>0141 300 1100</td>
<td>0141 211 3600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ayrshire and Arran</td>
<td>01292 885858</td>
<td>01563 521 133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borders</td>
<td>01896 825 560</td>
<td>01896 826 000</td>
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<td>Dumfries and Galloway</td>
<td>01387 272 724</td>
<td>01387 246 246</td>
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<td>Fife</td>
<td>01592 226435 / 447</td>
<td>01383 623623</td>
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<td>Forth Valley</td>
<td>01786 457 283</td>
<td>01324 566 000</td>
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<td>Grampian</td>
<td>01224 558 520</td>
<td>0345 456 6000</td>
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<td>Greater Glasgow &amp; Clyde</td>
<td>0141 201 4917</td>
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<td>01856 888 000</td>
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<td>01595 743 000</td>
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<tr>
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<td>01382 660 111</td>
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<td>Western Isles</td>
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Appendix 2 – Version history

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