COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Frequently Asked Questions

What is COVID-19 (Coronavirus)?

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some causing illness in people and others that circulate among animals, including camels, cats, and bats. As has been seen with Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV) (known as the avian or bird flu), Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV), and recently the COVID-19, coronaviruses can infect people exposed to infected animals and then spread among people.

How is it transmitted?

COVID-19 is believed to spread from person-to-person and may also spread through contact with contaminated surfaces and equipment. Individuals are at increased risk of exposure if they have a recent history of travel to areas experiencing cases of COVID-19 and/or have been in contact with individuals known to be infected or are symptomatic of the virus. Presently, the only means to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus.

Am I at risk of getting COVID-19 in the United States?

The risk of getting COVID-19 in the United States is currently low. This is, however, a rapidly evolving situation. Information on the risk is available on the <u>CDC's Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) website</u>.

What are the known symptoms?

Symptoms are similar to the common flu and include a fever (100.4 or greater), cough, or difficulty breathing. According to the CDC, symptoms may appear in as few as two (2) days and as late as fourteen (14) days from the date of exposure.

Should I be tested for COVID-19?

If a person has recently traveled through an area identified by the CDC as at high risk of exposure to the COVID-19 or has been visited by one who has, and the person is experiencing a fever (100.4 or greater), cough, or difficulty breathing, the CDC recommends that the person contact their healthcare professional.

What is the treatment protocol?

Individuals diagnosed with the COVID-19 will receive care focused on alleviating symptoms. There is currently no curative treatment for COVID-19.

For more FAQs, please refer to the FAQs available on the <u>CDC website</u>.

New Perspective