WHO Lebanon Daily Brief on COVID-19
15 February 2020

Highlights

- **No confirmed cases have been reported yet in Lebanon.**
- First case of coronavirus in Egypt reported yesterday 14 Feb 2020, bringing the total cases in the region to nine (UAE 8 cases). The patient, a non-Egyptian has been placed in isolation and is still asymptomatic.
- Over 400 of the world's leading experts set research priorities in pursuing COVID-19 vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics, and overall understanding. The deliberations will form the basis of a research and innovation roadmap charting all the research needed and this will be used by researchers and funders to accelerate the research response.

WHO role in emergency preparedness and response/IHR
- Monitoring outbreak
- Normative guidance
- Technical support for national authorities
- Risk communication
- Filling critical gaps

Situation in numbers as per WHO dashboard

- Globally 50,577 laboratory-confirmed cases (2,567 new)
- Cases reported from **26** countries (1 New)
- 50,054 confirmed cases in China (2,549 new)
- **1,459** deaths (74 new) (CFR: 2.9%)

Cases details (WHO sitrep)

- 505 laboratory-confirmed cases outside China (58 new)
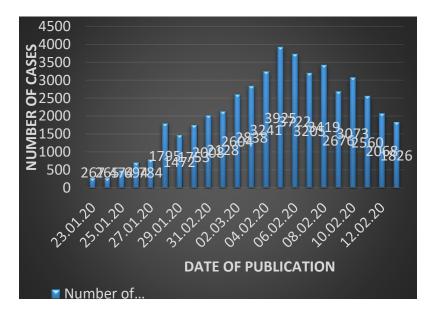- **2 death outside China – Philippines and Japan (1 new)**

Figure 1 **Number of new cases (Laboratory confirmed cases only) of COVID-19 per day,**

Countries with confirmed (new) cases
China: **50,054** Cases
International conveyance (Japan): **218** Cases
Singapore: **67** Cases (9)
Japan: **41** Cases (8)
Thailand: **33** Cases
Rep Korea: **28** Cases
Malaysia: **19** Cases
Germany: **16** Cases
Viet Nam: **16** Cases
Australia: **15** Cases
USA: **15** Cases
France: **11** Cases
UK: **9** Cases
UAE: **8** Cases
Canada: **7** Cases
India: **3** Cases
Italy: **3** Cases
Philippines: **3** Cases
Russian: **2** Cases
Spain: **2** Cases
Belgium: **1** Cases
Cambodia: **1** Cases
Finland: **1** Cases
Nepal: **1** Cases
Sri Lanka: **1** Cases
Sweden: **1** Cases
Egypt: **1** Cases NEW

Questions and answers

Q: **What is the most effective protection measure against the new coronavirus or COVID-19?**
A: You might be surprised to hear that hand washing is the most effective means of preventing all virus infections including COVID-19. Wear a face mask only if you are unwell and experiencing respiratory illness.

Q: **How is the new coronavirus shared from person to person?**
A: **:** The new coronavirus is shared or transmitted from person to person when one person talks, sneezes or coughs producing 'droplets' of saliva containing virus that are then breathed in by another person. These droplets can also land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby. For best protection, cover your mouth and nose when you cough and sneeze with your elbow or disposable tissue. Encourage others to do the same.

Latest facts
The latest scientific estimates of the incubation period for COVID-19 range from 1-12.5 days with median estimates of 5-6 days.

**Beware of criminals pretending to be WHO for more

Useful links
- WHO real time dashboard
- WHO COVID-19 page
- WHO travel advice (English/Arabic)
- Protect yourself (English/Arabic)
- Q&A (English/Arabic)

- WHO Lebanon Facebook
- WHO Lebanon Twitter
- WHO Lebanon Instagram
- WHO online course on emerging respiratory viruses, including COVID-19

Important numbers
- MOPH Hotline 1214
- Airport quarantine section 01-629352
- Epidemiological Surveillance Unit 01-614194 | 01-614196
- Preventive medicine center 01-843769 | 01830300

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