

# Emerging Infectious Disease Surveillance Tool (2019-Novel Coronavirus)



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This Protocol developed and approved by the IAED's CBRN Fast Track Committee of the Council of Standards.

Listen carefully and tell me if s/he has any of the following symptoms:

**Medical Director-approved additional questions:**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Ask only in early phases when new flu, respiratory illness, or hemorrhagic fever is emerging from specific areas:**  
**Travel History/Patient Contact History**

- has s/he traveled in the last 14 days (if so, where?) \_\_\_\_\_
- (If above is Yes) confirmed travel from a known infected ("hot") area
- contact with a person who has traveled from a known infected ("hot") area in the last 14 days (if so, what place?) \_\_\_\_\_
- contact with someone with flu-like illness (if so, when?) \_\_\_\_\_
- (If above is Yes) is s/he a healthcare worker \_\_\_\_\_

\*Continued on reverse side

Now tell me if s/he has any of the following symptoms:

- measured body temperature  $\geq 100.4^{\circ}$  F ( $38.0^{\circ}$  C)
- fever (hot to the touch in room temperature)
- chills
- difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- persistent cough
- any other new respiratory problems (e.g., persistent sneezing, wheezing, congestion, etc.)

**Infection Prevention Instructions:**

- (Keep isolated)** From now on, **don't allow** anyone to come in **close contact** with her/him.

**Medical Director-approved Special Instructions:**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Abbreviations**

**CDC** = Centers for Disease Control, US Gov't  
**EIDS Tool** = Emerging Infectious Disease Surveillance Tool  
**EVD** = Ebola Viral Disease  
**MERS** = Middle East Respiratory Syndrome  
**nCoV** = novel Coronavirus  
**SRI** = Severe Respiratory Infection  
**WHO** = World Health Organization, UN

**EIDS Tool Statement**

The International Academies of Emergency Dispatch's CBRN Fast Track Committee first began issuing updates on the dispatch aspects of 2019-nCoV and the Surveillance Tool in early January 2020 and published their 2019-nCoV-specific Emerging Infectious Disease (EIDS) Tool for anyone in the world to use.

**Academy Advice on Tool Use**

With the spread of 2019-nCoV outside of China now appearing unpredictably in new places, the specifics of when to use this Tool and **the extent of questioning within this Tool must remain user-defined** (Medical Director-controlled wherever possible).

Where a secondary surveillance software, like FirstWatch™, is used, there may be a greater desire to collect more information using this Tool to aid in its predictability features and output. This is a local decision that must be directed by EMS and public health officials and medical control physicians.

- Rules**
1. This Tool **does not require a specific order or number of questions** to ask. Geographically, areas of recent travel concern can change daily or simply become irrelevant.
  2. There are **five spaces** for "Medical Director-defined" **questions** for local agency use. Since ProQA cannot recognize these, you must have each question previously **defined by Medical Director-approved policy**.
  3. During 2019-nCoV emergence, **check the IAED's website daily** for any new updates or dispatch-related advice until the public health is again stable and assured. **Updates** to the EIDS Tool may be posted **at any time at: [www.emergencydispatch.org](http://www.emergencydispatch.org)**

4. There are **several questions related to an elevated body temperature** – one specifically asking about any **measured temperature at or above 100.4°F/38.0°C** and 2 other "surrogate" temperature questions: **fever (hot to the touch in room temperature)** and **chills**. Per your agency's policy, a **positive answer** to any one of these questions can **eliminate the need to ask the others**.
5. The EIDS Tool is **not launched automatically** off any Chief Complaint Protocols at this time. IAED recommends **using the EIDS Tool for the following Chief Complaints: 6 and 26**. Also, the EIDS Tool **should be used for other Chief Complaints when the caller offers information** that would lead the EMD to **suspect a respiratory-type illness**. However, these designations **could change** at any time.

**Limitations Warnings**

**The content, format, and/or intended use of the EIDS Tool can change at any time.** It is important that you and your agency stay informed of any updates by visiting the IAED website at least once daily. **Neither the IAED nor PDC has any obligation, beyond its website postings, to individually inform licensed users, or other agencies using this Tool,** of any updates or changes, due to the rapidly evolving aspects of such diseases, outbreaks, epidemics, or a pandemic.

As North American English (NAE) is the "mother" language of the IAED, the Academy and its CBRN Fast Track Committee must make quick and difficult decisions on the release order and timeliness of translations into other languages and dialects and their ultimate availability, based on rapidly changing conditions regarding current areas of outbreak and government recommendations. This will likely affect the order and priority of such postings.

**2019-Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)**

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that are known to cause illness ranging from the common cold to more **severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)**.

A novel coronavirus (CoV) is a **new strain** of coronavirus that has not been previously identified in humans. The 2019 Novel Coronavirus, or **2019-nCoV**, is a new respiratory virus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China.

Some coronaviruses can be transmitted from **person to person**, usually after **close contact** with an **infected patient** (e.g., in a household, workplace, or healthcare center).

Common signs include **respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, shortness of breath, and breathing difficulties**. In more severe cases, infection can cause pneumonia, severe acute respiratory syndrome, kidney failure, and even death.

The CDC and WHO believes at this time that **symptoms** of 2019-nCoV may appear in as few as **2 days** or as long as **14 days after exposure**. This is based on what has been seen previously as the incubation period of MERS viruses.

**Printing Instructions**

**To print** the EIDS Tool for manual cardset use, please select pages 2 and 3 in your printer options and also select duplex or two-sided. Once printed, fold the page in half with initial Tool questions on the outside of card.

**To trim the pullout tab**, use another pullout card as a guide to cut the curved edges of the tab. Reinforce the tab using clear packaging tape and trim again.

