UCSF Launches Coronavirus Website for Updates on Outbreak  
Update #1

UC San Francisco continues to monitor developments regarding the global novel coronavirus outbreak, and has launched a website (ucsf.edu/coronavirus) to serve as a source of news and information for the UCSF community.

“We will continue to monitor the emerging situation and are working closely with colleagues at the San Francisco and California Departments of Public Health to coordinate efforts across health facilities,” UCSF Health Chief Clinical Officer Josh Adler, MD, said in a statement to the UCSF community.

The website has guidance about symptoms, prevention, patient screening, counseling resources, travel restrictions and recommendations that is specific to UCSF, as well as links to local, state and federal public health agencies, such as the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Although the health risk for Bay Area residents remains low at this time, UCSF’s Infection Prevention and Emergency Management teams are working together to ensure the campus and UCSF Health are prepared and that members of the UCSF community and patients are informed about the outbreak which the World Health Organization today declared a global health emergency.

Currently, UCSF is unaware of any faculty, staff and learners in China, where there are more than 8,000 confirmed cases. There also are no confirmed cases of patients diagnosed with coronavirus at UCSF or in the Bay Area. UCSF Health is prepared to safely care for patients with suspected or confirmed coronavirus infections using the infection prevention and control practices recommended by the CDC, the California Department of Public Health and the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

Adler reminds individuals that they can take a few simple steps to prevent the spread of respiratory infections, including the flu, such as frequent hand washing. Importantly, if an individual is experiencing a fever or flu symptoms, they should not come to school or to work. Read more about infectious disease prevention and treatment on the CDC website.
UCSF infectious disease expert Charles Chiu, MD, PhD, explained the origins of the Wuhan virus and public health risks in a story posted last week.

To date, five cases of the coronavirus have been confirmed in the United States in Arizona, California, Washington and Illinois. Globally, in addition to China, where the outbreak was first identified in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, about a dozen other countries have confirmed 8,235 cases of coronavirus. The death toll stands at 171. For the most recent numbers and a visual representation of all confirmed cases worldwide, use this interactive tool developed by Johns Hopkins University.

By comparison to the flu, this week the CDC reports that 8,200 people have died from influenza in the United States this season, with 15 million cases counted so far and 140,000 hospitalizations.

UCSF will continue to monitor the coronavirus outbreak and will keep the UCSF community informed as the situation unfolds. Please look to the website for updates.

Help fight crime by reporting suspicious persons and/or suspicious activity to UCSF PD immediately—race, gender, and religious affiliation are NOT considered suspicious. For emergency or in-progress events, dial 9-911 when using on-campus land lines and 415.476-6911 when using cell phones. For non-emergency calls, please dial 415.476-1414.