Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Fact Sheet

KEY POINTS

- Pennsylvania Department of Health and Montgomery County Office of Public Health have taken a proactive approach to prepare and carefully monitor potential cases of COVID-19 in Pennsylvania.
- COVID-19 has now been detected in over 60 locations internationally, including the United States.
- To date, there are NO confirmed cases in Pennsylvania.
- Current travel advisories include:
  - o Level 3- **Avoid** all Non-Essential travel to China, South Korea, Italy and Iran
  - o Level 2- **Be Alert i**f traveling to Japan
  - o Level 1- **Watch** travel to Hong Kong

OVERVIEW

- Novel strain of coronavirus that was first discovered in December 2019. The first cases were found in China and have since spread around the world. Because it's so new, we are still learning much about the virus. What we do know is that COVID-19 acts like other respiratory viruses like the flu.
- People who have COVID-19 sometimes get fevers, a cough, and have trouble breathing. A small number of people with the virus will require hospitalization, and some have died.
- COVID-19 is spread through the air when someone who is sick coughs or sneezes, or through close personal contact like touching or shaking hands. It also can spread if a person touches an object or surface that has COVID-19 on it and then touches their mouth, nose or eyes.
- To date, there are no available vaccine or antiviral medications for the prevention and treatment of COVID-19.

WHAT IS MONTGOMERY COUNTY CURRENTLY DOING?

- Surveillance and Monitoring: We are working to contain the spread of COVID-19 by monitoring individuals who are high risk, and making recommendations for prevention measures as provided by CDC.
- Coordinating Testing: We are working closely with PADOH and health care providers to get individuals tested who meet CDC's criteria for persons under investigation.
- Education and Outreach: Develop and distribute information about the latest information about COVID-19, prevention, and containment.
- Recommendations and Guidance: OPH has been continually issuing guidance developed by CDC and PADOH to the general public, schools, businesses and health care providers on what we can do to limit the spread of COVID-19, and protect our residents with a focus on vulnerable populations.
- Communication and coordination with county departments, communities, businesses and schools.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PROCTECT YOUSELF?

- **COVER** any coughs or sneezes with your elbow or a tissue.
- **CLEAN** surfaces that people touch often like doorknobs, counters, phones, or bathroom faucets. Be sure to follow the use instructions   on the label of the cleaning solution.
- **WASH** your hands often with soap and water. Use hand sanitizer if soap and water isn't available.
- **CONTAIN**: If you are sick, stay home and try to stay away from other people.
- **PREPARE** family emergency plans and preparedness kits using guidance from Ready.gov