

Public Health Advisory: Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Background

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is closely monitoring an outbreak of a new coronavirus (COVID-19) in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. Patients with confirmed COVID-19 infection exhibited mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of fever, cough, and shortness of breath. The virus spreads from person to person via respiratory droplets generated when a person coughs or sneezes. Transmission also occurs when a person touches a surface (i.e. desk) where the virus is present and then touches his/her eyes, nose, or mouth before washing their hands. There is no antiviral treatment or vaccine to combat COVID-19. The best way to prevent becoming ill is to frequently wash hands, cough into a tissue or your elbow, disinfect surfaces on a routine basis, and remain at home if sick. As of 19 March 2020, the United Kingdom has had 2,626 confirmed cases and 103 deaths. There have been no confirmed cases of a positive COVID-19 infection at RAF Croughton.

Recommendations

- The immediate health risk to the general public according to gov.uk guidance has recently been raised to high.
- Wash your hands more often than usual, for 20 seconds using soap and hot water, particularly after coughing, sneezing and blowing your nose, or after being in public areas where other people are doing so.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze.
- Put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards.
- To the best of your ability it is advised that you avoid contact with people as much as possible. When you are in public we recommend you practice social distancing (keep a 6 ft distance between yourself and others).
- If you or someone in your household develops a new cough or fever, stay home and self-isolate. **IF YOU OR YOUR HOUSEHOLD ARE QUARANTINING AT HOME YOU MUST ALERT YOUR CHAIN OF COMMAND.**
- If you feel you need to be seen by a provider please call the MTF at 236-8864 to make an appointment. Please do not report to the MTF without an appointment. We are not accepting walk-ins at this time.
- Visit 501csw.usafe.af.mil for the most up to date information about what is happening with COVID-19 on base.
- Some additional resources available are:
 - Public Health England <https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>
 - Center for Disease Control (CDC) <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html>

422nd MDS Contact Information

If you have a new onset cough or a fever of 100.4 or higher self- quarantine at home. If you feel sick and would like to speak to/see a provider please call the MTF at 236-8864 to set up an appointment.

If you have any other medical needs (lab, med refill, etc.) please contact the clinic at 236-8844.

For any emergencies such as difficulty breathing, chest pain, or other concerning symptoms, please go directly to the nearest Emergency Department.

The 422nd MDS is opened Monday thru Friday: 0730-1500 hrs. The clinic is closed on weekends and Federal holidays.