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Tygerberg Hospital & Stellenbosch University

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID – 19)

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Agent Source

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Clinical picture

- Main symptoms
 - FEVER
 - COUGH
 - DIFFICULTY BREATHING
 - FATIGUE AND MYALGIA

Low grade fever & fatigue

Back pain & general weakness

Additional noteworthy findings (n=99)		
Blood results	Low lymphocyte count	
Exposure to Huanong food market	49%	
Males	68%	
Mean age	55yrs	
Chronic medical conditions	51%	
Mortality	11%	

(1st 99 cases from Wuhan city)	Patients (n=99)	
Signs and symptoms at admission		
Fever	82 (83%)	
Cough	81 (82%)	
Shortness of breath	31 (31%)	
Muscle ache	11 (11%)	
Confusion	9 (9%)	
Headache	8 (8%)	
Sore throat	5 (5%)	
Rhinorrhoea	4 (4%)	
Chest pain	2 (2%)	
Diarrhoea	2 (2%)	
Nausea and vomiting	1 (1%)	
More than one sign or symptom	89 (90%)	
Fever, cough, and shortness of breath	15 (15%)	
Chest x-ray and CT findings		
Unilateral pneumonia	25 (25%)	
Bilateral pneumonia	74 (75%)	
Multiple mottling and ground-glass opacity	14 (14%)	

Chaolin Huang et. al. Clinical features of patients infected with 2019 nCoV in Wuhan, China The Lancet Infectious Diseases. January 24, 2020 Lan T. Phan et. al. Importation and Human-to-Human Transmission of nCoV in Vietnam. NEJM January 28, 2020

Nanshan Chen et. al. Epidemiological and clinical characteristics of 99 cases of 2019 nCoV pneumonia in Wuhan, China: a descriptive study. The Lancet. January 29, 2020

Experience from around the world

- IP -2-9 days \rightarrow median of 5 days
- Most common presentation:
 - 1 week prodrome myalgia, malaise, cough, low grade fever
 - Gradually worsening to difficult brearthimh in 2nd week
- Average of 8 days to dyspnoea
- Average of 9 days to pneumonia/pneumonitis
- Fever often not a prominent feature
- Most consistent lab finding is lymphopaenia (WCC \uparrow/\downarrow)
- Most consistent radiographic finding bilateral ground glass infiltrates
- CRP/PCT not consistent

- Co-infection rate with other viruses ≤2%
 - i.e. co-infection very uncommon
- Secondary bacterial infection less common
- Intubation considered source control equal to patient wearing a mask
- BIPAP is aerosol generating
- Health care worker exposure categorised as low-moderate and high
 - Only high risk exposure takes 14 days off
 - Other shorter off or wear mask for 14 days
- Viral shedding for 1 4 weeks after symptom resolution
 - ? relation to transmission risk
 - clear from isolation after 2 consecutive test 24hrs apart
- Airborne infection Isolation Room (AIIR) is the least important of all measures to reduce exposure
 - Contact and droplet exposure in a single room just as good
 - General hand hygiene and environmental cleaning most important

Clinical management of suspected cases



1. Triage:

- Case definition → Immediate IPC measures
- 2. Supportive therapy O₂, paracetamol etc.
- 3. Collect specimens for diagnosis
- 4. Consider differential diagnosis
- 5. Critical care (where applicable):
 - Manage respiratory failure, ARDS, septic shock
 - Prevent VAP, CLABSI, VTE, GIT complications
- 6. Anti-CoV treatment?

- 1. Viral pneumonia Influenza
- 2. Bacterial pneumonia
 - Atypical organisms
 - Typical organisms
- 3. Pneumocystis pneumonia HIV
- 1. Ventilate if required (?HFNO / NIV)
- 2. ARDS
 - Lung protective ventilation
 - Proning
- 3. Restrictive fluid management

TRIAGE OF PERSONS AT RISK OF EXPOSURE TO SARS-CoV-2 (causing COVID-19)



Patient presenting with acute onset respiratory infection (1 or more of cough, sore throat or shortness of breath) ± fever

AND within the past 14 days has either:

- Travel history to affected area with active community transmission*
- Exposure to a suspected or confirmed case of SARS-CoV-2
 - Severe Acute Respiratory Illness of unknown cause**



NO

Put SURGICAL mask on patient and isolate (Do not do Temp, finger glucose, Hb or other tests at this point)

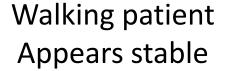
Wash hands

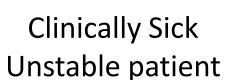
This patient is **not** considered a risk

They should be triaged and seen by a doctor as

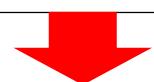
per normal protocol











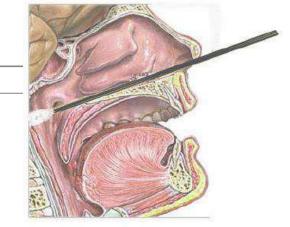
- Isolate patient in single room
- Inform senior doctor
- All staff providing clinical care to patient to wear mask, apron & gloves & protective eyewear
- If in EU department Call EU consultant who will call ID consultant to discuss
- If outside of EU, call ID consultant directly

- Take patient to the Resuscitation room
- Inform senior doctor
- Call EU consultant
- Staff providing clinical care to patient to wear mask, apron, gloves & protective eyewear
- Keep waste contained in designated area
- Don't share equipment between patients
- EU Consultant will assess based on current case definitions and call ID Consultant

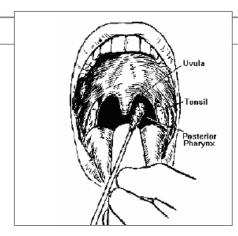
Laboratory diagnosis

NICD hotline - 082 883 9920

- Primary method if diagnosis
 - rRT-PCR on respiratory samples
 - Turn around time ~24hrs







- Combined nasopharyngeal & oropharyngeal swab
 - Use universal/viral transport medium
- Sputum or tracheal aspirate / BAL
 - Sterile container
- Serum for serological testing
 - acute and convalescent samples





Infection prevention & control

Respiratory transmission



Droplet spread

In-hospital risk of aerosol generation

Airborne spread

- Bacteria
 - Meningococcal meningitis
 - Diphtheria
- Viruses
 - Influenza
 - Mumps
 - Rubella
 - SARS, MERS, COVID-19

- Bacteria
 - Tuberculosis
- Viruses
 - Measles
 - Chickenpox

Infection prevention and control

When caring for someone with suspected COVID-19



CONTACT AND DROPLET PRECAUTIONS

- Put in a well ventilated isolation room
- Provide patient with a
- Limit number of staff e
- Contact and droplet
 - Gloves
 - Disposable apron
 - Surgical mask
 - Eye protection



- Not appropriate for droplet precautions
 - Negative pressure respiratory isolation room

CONTACT AND AIRBORNE PRECAUTIONS

- Only when performing aerosol generating procedures
 - Nasopharyngeal swab
 - Sputum sample
 - Intubation
 - Tracheal aspirate
 - NIV / HFNA
- Contact and airborne precautions include:
 - Gloves
 - Waterproof gown
 - N95 respirator
 - Eye protection







IPC measures in the community

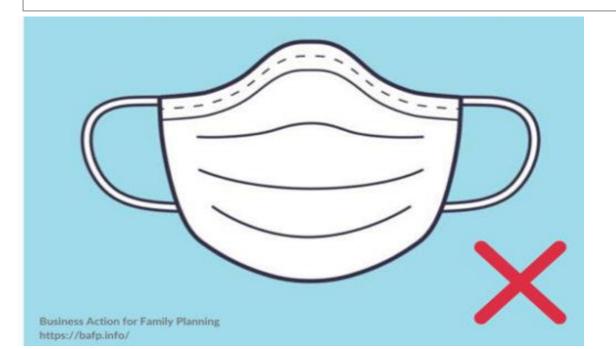


DON'T SPREAD IT

- Cough etiquette → hand hygiene
- Avoid close contact (stay at home)
- Seek early medical advice

DON'T GET IT

- Continuous hand hygiene
- Avoid touching face & nose without clean hands
- Avoid close contact with sick people



Specific anti-CoV treatment

- Currently no effective treatment proven
- If available drug –likely to be beneficial in early stages of disease
- Aim of an effective drug:
 - Decreased time of viral shedding
 - Decreased time of symptoms
 - Decreased progression to severe disease

Specific anti-CoV treatment



RESPIRATORY INFECTION

Role of lopinavir/ritonavir in the treatment of SARS: initial virological and clinical findings

C M Chu, V C C Cheng, I F N Hung, M M L Wong, K H Chan, K S Chan, R Y T Kao, L L M Poon, C L P Wong, Y Guan, J S M Peiris, K Y Yuen, on behalf of the HKU/UCH SARS Study Group*

Thorax 2004;59:252-256. doi: 10.1136/thorax.2003.012658

- 41 patients treated with LOP/r plus ribavirin (Death/ARDS vs. 111 historical controls)
 - 2,4 vs 28,8%; p=0,001
- Recent results: Limited value

Nucleotide analogue – Remdesivir (Gilead)

- Potent activity in animal models with SARS & MERS
- Clinical trials ongoing



Thank you

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