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MINISTRY OF HEALTH
Division of Disease Surveillance and Response

Case Definition for Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The case definition is based on the current information available and may be revised as new information accumulates.

Suspect Case

Any person with any acute respiratory illness (fever or cough or difficulty in breathing) **AND** at least one of the following:

- A history of travel from or residence in countries with presumed widespread transmission* in the 14 days prior to symptom onset, or
- Close contact** with a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 in the 14 days prior to illness onset, or
- Close contact** with an individual with a history of respiratory illness and travel to countries with presumed widespread transmission* within the last 30 days, or
- Worked or attended a health care facility in the 14 days prior to onset of symptoms where patients with hospital-associated COVID-19 infections have been reported.

Probable Case

Probable case: A suspect case for whom testing for COVID-19 is inconclusive*** or for whom testing was positive on a pan-coronavirus assay.

Confirmed Case

A person with laboratory confirmation of COVID-19 infection, irrespective of clinical signs and symptoms.

***China, South Korea, Italy and Iran**

**Close contact is defined as:

- Working together in close proximity or sharing the same environment with a COVID-19 patient
- Traveling together with a COVID-19 patient in any kind of conveyance
- Living in the same household as a COVID-19 patient
- Health care associated exposure, including providing direct care for COVID-19 patients, working with health care workers infected with novel coronavirus, visiting patients or staying in the same close environment as a COVID-19 patient.

***Inconclusive being the result of the test reported by the laboratory.