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February 28, 2020

From the Office of Dr. Joyce Lock, Medical Officer of Health, Southwestern Public Health

COVID-19 Update

Current Situation: Case Counts

For current case counts, refer to:

- [Global situation reports, WHO](#)
- [Canadian situation reports, PHAC](#)
- [Ontario situation reports, Ministry of Health](#)

Updated Case Definitions

Current as of February 26, 2020. These case definitions are for surveillance purposes and are not intended to replace clinical judgement.

Person Under Investigation	<p>A person with fever AND/OR onset of cough or difficulty breathing AND any of the following within 14 days prior to onset of symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel to an affected area* OR • Close contact with a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 OR • Close contact with a person with acute respiratory illness who has been to an affected area
Probable Case	<p>A person with fever (>38°C) AND/OR onset of (or exacerbation of chronic) cough AND any of the following within 14 days prior to onset of symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel to an affected area* OR Close contact with a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 OR • Close contact with a person with acute respiratory illness who has been to an affected area AND

Presumptive Confirmed Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laboratory diagnosis of COVID-19 is not available, inconclusive, or negative (if specimen quality or timing are suspect)
Confirmed Case	<p>A person in whom laboratory testing for COVID-19 was positive from the Public Health Laboratory by real-time PCR or at least two specific targets but not yet confirmed by nucleic acid sequencing by Public Health Laboratory, or not confirmed by PCR or nucleic acid sequencing by the National Microbiology Laboratory.</p> <p>A person with laboratory confirmation of COVID-19 infection performed at a reference laboratory (e.g. National Microbiology Lab or Public Health Lab) and consists of positive real-time PCR on at least two specific genomic targets or a single positive target AND additional detection with nucleic acid sequencing. Positive tests at a non-reference laboratory require additional tests at a reference laboratory for confirmation.</p>

New Affected Areas

On **February 25, 2020** the Public Health Agency of Canada updated the list of countries affected by COVID-19. This list is intended to help inform decision making by health professionals in Canada who are involved in the assessment and management of possible COVID-19 cases and their close contacts.

To date, the following are considered affected areas:

- China (mainland)
- Hong Kong
- Iran
- Italy
- Japan
- Singapore
- South Korea

These countries also have corresponding [travel health notices](#) with additional information and travel advice that should be consulted.

Additional Information and Resources

- [Public Health Ontario](#)
- [Public Health Agency of Canada](#)
- [Southwestern Public Health](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)

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