Outbreak of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)
CARPHA Situation Report – No. 19 March 6, 2020

Summary

This is an update to the Situation Report in relation to the outbreak of COVID-19, published on March 4, 2020.

CARPHA has increased the risk level for the Caribbean to Very High. This follows confirmed cases of COVID-19 in more countries in the region.

The Regional Coordinating Mechanism for Health Security (RCM-HS), is actively working with Heads of Government and regional partners on a collective approach to the COVID-19 response. Countries are urged to take every necessary step to move away from a state of preparedness to a state of readiness and rapid response.

Health authorities in CARPHA Member States (CMS) must be ready to respond to possible importation of cases and subsequent local transmission. They are also encouraged to increase their capacity for surveillance and review their pandemic preparedness plans, as a matter of urgency.

Updates in this report
- Risk level upgraded for the Caribbean
- Coordinated regional response
- Update on COVID-19 in the Caribbean Region
- COVID-19 Surveillance data from Member States

Situation Update
Risk Assessment

On 28 February, the World Health Organization (WHO) updated the global risk assessment levels from High to Very High. In a media briefing on Sunday 1 March, Dr Carissa Etienne, Director of PAHO indicated that the WHO was considering whether to declare the outbreak a pandemic, especially in light of the fact that cases have now been reported from all six (6) WHO Regions. Australia has already activated their Pandemic Response Plan for COVID-19.

CARPHA has upgraded the risk of disease transmission to the Caribbean Region to Very High. The revised risk level is based on international risk assessment guidelines, particularly in keeping with risk assessment guidelines for MERS-COV and pandemic influenza, and informed by several factors: (i) recent reports of COVID-19 cases in at least three countries in the French West Indies sub-region, including one country sharing land...
borders with a CARPHA Member State; (ii) sustained transmission of disease in countries with direct flights into the Caribbean Region; (iii) multiple countries outside the epicentre of the outbreak reporting secondary cases linked to imported cases, including an increasing number of countries reporting confirmed cases; and significantly more new cases reported from countries outside of China than from within China.

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and some Caribbean countries have updated travel alerts and advisories to include several countries reporting sustained community transmission.

**Caribbean Regional Coordination**

The Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) convened the RCM-HS, consisting of Member States, regional and international agencies including CDEMA, CARICOM, Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the Caribbean Community Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS), US Center for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC), Public Health England (PHE), Public Health Agency Canada (PHAC), and others, working towards a harmonised regional response.

Caribbean Heads of Government have thrown their weight behind the regional efforts for a coordinated approach to the COVID-19 response. Various meetings were convened in this regard in the past week.

On March 1, CARPHA joined Caribbean Heads of Government, Ministers of Health and their Chief Medical Officers, and representatives from the PAHO, the IMPACS, and the CDEMA at a special meeting convened by the Chairman of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Prime Minister Mia Amor Mottley, in Barbados. The aim of the meeting was to discuss ways of protecting the region from COVID-19. The meeting considered recommendations from the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD- Health) working group on regional coordination for management of the virus and other infectious diseases on passenger ships.

In keeping with mandates from CARICOM and recommendations from COHSOD- Health working group on regional coordination for management of the virus, CARPHA has led the development of various guidelines including those for management of cases on cruise ships, aircrafts, hotel workers and hotels and a draft pandemic response plan that countries can use to guide their national response efforts.

The guidelines have been adopted by some countries and regional stakeholders.

In a Press conference following the special meeting hosted by Chairman of CARICOM, Prime Minister Mia Mottley, on Sunday, Dr Carissa Etienne, Director of PAHO said several countries in the Caribbean have the capacity to test for COVID-19. These include Barbados, Suriname, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Dominica, Jamaica, Belize, Bahamas and Haiti. Other countries in the region including Martinique, French Guiana, Curacao, Aruba and St Martin and the British territories of Cayman and Bermuda also have capacity for testing.

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She said that the aim was to strengthen Member States capacity to detect, to contain and to manage cases, but that further work was necessary to ensure maximum capacity in the Caribbean region.  

Epidemiological Summary 

COVID-19 in the Caribbean 

**As of March 1, 2020, the first cases of COVID-19 in the Caribbean were reported. Five new imported cases have been reported from French Guiana. The three cases that were previously reported in St. Barthélemy (St. Barts), have since been reported by the WHO as being one case in St. Barts and two cases in French Saint Martin. The number of cases remains as one in the Dominican Republic at the time this report was published. In Latin and South America, there has been an increase in the total number of cases in Ecuador to thirteen and seven in Brazil. The total number of cases in Mexico, Argentina and Chile has remained unchanged in the last 48 hours.**

The data contained in Table 1 are obtained from data reported by the WHO, supplemented by other sources – (Reference 1 and 2 in Table 1). 

As of March 6, WHO reported 98,207 cases of patients with COVID-19. Outside of China, eighty-seven (87) countries have confirmed at least one case among travellers exposed in China, Iran or Italy and/or person-to-person contact. Of the deaths reported to date, 339 were from outside of Mainland China. Several new countries in Europe (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Gibraltar, Hungary, Liechtenstein, Serbia, Slovenia), Asia (Occupied Palestinian Territory, Bhutan), and Africa (South Africa) reported their first confirmed case of COVID-19 in the last 48 hours. Confirmed cases reported from China’s Hubei province include clinically diagnosed cases without laboratory confirmation.

See Table 1 for more details on cases, deaths and recoveries.

**Table 1: Countries or Territories with reported cases of COVID-19, 6 March 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Country/Territory</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>Recovered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>China*</td>
<td>80710</td>
<td>3045</td>
<td>53897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>6284</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>3513</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>913</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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3 Barbados Today. PAHO Director expresses concern for Caribbean as COVID-19 cases are confirmed in three countries. Available at: https://barbadostoday.bb/2020/03/01/paho-director-expresses-concern-for-caribbean-as-covid-19-cases-are-confirmed-in-three-countries/

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Country/Territory</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>Recovered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td></td>
<td>349</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rest of Asia**</td>
<td>556</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>3858</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rest of Europe***</td>
<td>585</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>534</td>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>France</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>118</td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americas</td>
<td>United States of America</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>45</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Epidemiological assessment**

The epidemiology of COVID-19 has been characterized based on preliminary information and statistics from early cases. COVID-19 patients present in three levels of severity (WHO):

- **Mild 80%**: Patients presenting with some of the following mild flu-like symptoms: fever, nausea, cough, vomiting, and diarrhoea; some may develop dyspnea or a mild pneumonia. Most patients will not progress past this phase, will recover after a week and may be cared for at home.
- **Severe 15%**: Severe patients present with severe pneumonia, acute respiratory distress syndrome, and sepsis. These patients require hospitalisation but still can recover with good medical care.\(^5\)
- **Critical 5%**: Critical patients have respiratory failure (requiring mechanical ventilation), septic shock, and multi-organ failure and require care in an Intensive Care Unit (ICU).\(^6\)

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\(^6\) World Health Organization. Clinical management of severe acute respiratory infection when novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) infection is suspected. 28 January 2020

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Country/Territory</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>Recovered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caribbean</td>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Guadeloupe, Saint-Martin, Saint-Bart(^\wedge)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Guyane (French Guiana)(^\wedge)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>In transit (Japan: Cruise Ship)</td>
<td>696</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>98207</td>
<td>3381</td>
<td>55690</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Cases: Mainland China (80552), Hong Kong (104), Taiwan (44) and Macau (10) Deaths: Mainland China (3042), Hong Kong (2) Taiwan (1)

**Cases: Singapore (117), Malaysia (83), Kuwait (58), Bahrain (49), Thailand (48), Iraq (36), India (30), United Arab Emirates (27), Lebanon (16), Oman (16), Vietnam (16), Israel (15), Qatar (8), Saudi Arabia (8), Occupied Palestinian Territory (7), West Bank and Gaza Strip (7), Pakistan (5), Philippines (5), Azerbaijan (3), Indonesia (2), Afghanistan (1), Armenia (1), Bhutan (1), Cambodia (1), Jordan (1), Nepal (1), Sri Lanka (1). Deaths: Philippines (1), Thailand (1)

***Cases: Norway (86), Netherlands (82), Sweden (61), Switzerland (56), Belgium (50), Austria (47), Greece (32), Iceland (26), San Marino (21), Denmark (18), Ireland (14), Czech Republic (12), Finland (12), Croatia (10), Georgia (9), Portugal (9), Belarus (6), Romania (6), Slovenia (6), Russia (4), Estonia (3), Bosnia and Herzegovina (2), Hungary (2), Andorra (1), Gibraltar (1), Latvia (1), Liechtenstein (1), Lithuania (1), Luxembourg (1), Monaco (1), North Macedonia (1), Poland (1), Serbia (1), Ukraine (1).


Sources:

1. WHO Situation Dashboard Accessed at 8:00am 6 March 2020. Available from: [https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/685d0ace521648f8a5beeeeee1b9125d](https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/685d0ace521648f8a5beeeeee1b9125d)

Mission
CARPHA’s aim is to work with regional and international health partners to respond to this public health threat and provide timely advice and assistance to Member States and stakeholders.

Governance
CARPHA’S Incident Management Team – Emergency Response (IMT-ER) is leading the health response in keeping with CARPHA’s mandate from the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA). The IMT-ER produces Situation Reports three times weekly.

Operations
Surveillance and Technical Response

- CARPHA distributed a modified Weekly Syndromic Surveillance and COVID-19 Reporting Form to Member States to include COVID-19 surveillance in each week’s report. CARPHA received feedback from two Member States on the form during Epi Week 9. Summary of COVID-19 surveillance received from Member States is presented in Table 2.

Table 2: CARPHA Surveillance received from Member States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reporting Source</th>
<th>Airport</th>
<th>Seaport</th>
<th>Overall Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Travellers with exposure or travel history</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symptomatic travellers seen at Health facilities</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travellers quarantined by public health authority</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travellers self-quarantined at home</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of travellers completing 14-day isolation/quarantine</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of travellers tested during the reporting period</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outcome of tests</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probable</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

§To date, one Member State reported data for EPI-Week 8 and two Member States reported data for EPI-Week 9. * Not reported. No. Refers to the number of persons reporting in EW-X; Cum. refers to the number of persons to date, i.e. EW 1-X.
CARPHA is working with regional partners to develop a Pandemic Preparedness Plan to guide a
coordinated response across Member States, should local transmission of COVID-19 become
established in the Region.

- The CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS), has expanded the tracking of
passengers from China to include countries with CDC travel advisories (Hong Kong, Japan, Italy, South
Korea, Iran). The Joint Regional Communication Centre (JRCC) will track and send relevant information
to countries.
- Various technical guidelines have been developed including algorithms to assist CARPHA Member
States (CMS) to triage and manage suspected cases within their borders and in clinical settings. To
view all CARPHA technical guidance documents regarding COVID-19, please visit the CARPHA website
at http://carpha.org/What-We-Do/Public-Health/Novel-Coronavirus (See also a list on page 10 of this
Report).

### Laboratory

- CARPHA Medical Microbiology Laboratory (CMML) is working closely with Laboratory Directors on
plans of action to manage the COVID-19 emergency.
- The Laboratory Update #2 was circulated on Friday, February 28th. These outline amendments to the
samples to be accepted for testing at CMML.
- Effective March 2rd, only Nasopharyngeal and Oropharyngeal swabs (paired) will be accepted for
testing. Neither urine nor serum will be further required.
- Table 3 provides a breakdown of the number of samples and the results for tests carried out by CMML
as at Epi week 10.

### Table 3: Summary of laboratory test results for SARS-CoV-2 conducted at CMML and by National Public
Health Laboratories as at 6 March 2020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trinidad &amp; Tobago</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamaica</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Lucia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BVI</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bermuda</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Vincent and The Grenadines</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>44</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
<td><strong>44</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Communication and Information

- On the 28th February 2020, CARPHA dispatched a media release to the region to update media outlets on the increased risk of spread of COVID-19 to the Caribbean Region. Available from: http://carpha.org/Portals/0/Documents/Media%20Releases/CARPHAUpgradesCOVIDRisk.pdf
- On the 28th February 2020, CARPHA Communications Unit met with the Regional Health Communications Network (RHCN) to discuss and provide updates on country’s level of preparedness and health promotion activities. Thirteen member states and CARICOM were in attendance.
- Leaders at the 31st Intercessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM welcomed the Communication Strategy developed by CARPHA to increase public knowledge on actions to prevent importation and/or transmission of the virus in the Region. They noted that the strategy was important to counter myths and misinformation, thereby reducing potential social media hysteria associated with the fear of an outbreak in CARICOM Member States.
- On 17th February 2020, CARPHA Executive Director, Dr. Joy St John appeared as guest (virtually) on Grenada Broadcasting Network’s Beyond the Headlines with Grenada Minister of Health, The Honourable Nickolas Steele and Chief Medical Officer, Dr Francis Martin to discuss COVID-2019: national and regional overview. Available from: https://youtu.be/BTzAH7c-I04
- CARPHA’s Executive Director participated in a joint virtual media briefing with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), hosted by the Caribbean Broadcasting Union for its print, television, and radio audiences.
- CARPHA Communications Unit is working closely with the Regional Health Communications Network (RHCN) and other stakeholders to provide timely updates and information. They have also developed various videos and infographics to counteract myths about the disease circulating in the Region. The latest media release and other relevant guidelines are available on CARPHA’s website. Available from: http://carpha.org/What-We-Do/Public-Health/Novel-Coronavirus.
- 3rd March, 2020. CARPHA Executive Director joined Honourable Minister of Health for Trinidad and Tobago Terrence Deyalsingh on CNC3 The Morning Brew. https://youtu.be/Zq0-ezPpK0w
Logistics and Planning

- Samples from Member States and reagents are being processed through the Trinidad and Tobago Customs Department without delay.
- Several Member States have implemented various measures to limit importation of the disease, including screening at ports of entry. Details can be obtained from the Ministries of Health of each Member State.

Stakeholder Engagement

CARPHA is working closely with various stakeholders for a coordinated regional response, including the following:

- On 5 March, CARPHA participated in two regional planning meetings facilitated by Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA). In the COVID 19 - Scenario Planning meeting, CARPHA reviewed and advised on possible scenarios, solutions and guidelines for stakeholders, and general guidelines for regional coordination with partner organizations and countries in the region. Included were possible scenarios. CDEMA used these recommendations to create a matrix to guide participants. At the COVID 19 - Meeting of the Caribbean Development Partners Group, CARPHA provided a situation update on the outbreak, CARPHA’s actions to date and gave recommendations of how to create a coordinated, regional preparedness and response.

- With the number of new cases been reported and the increased numbers of travel related restrictions, CARPHA has seen an increase in the number of requests from organisations around the region for assistance with the development of contingency plans for business continuity and information to guide staff. CARPHA has produced some general documents to assist organisations in this process to plan for a COVID-19 outbreak in their area. These are available from CARPHA’s coronavirus website under resources for businesses.

- Met with Cruise Line Industry to discuss Regional Public Health Protocols. CARPHA provided an update on what is happening and gave practical steps that sectors of the tourism industry can take to ensure safety of staff, crew, passengers, and guests.

- Held weekly meeting with expert Technical Advisory Group during the COVID-19 response. Created guidelines for a Regional Coordinated Response with recommendations for CMS on how to prepare for and respond to COVID-19 cases. Discussed further recommendations for cruise lines and PAHO support for surge capacity through the use of Rapid Response Teams.

- The Executive Director and Acting Director of Surveillance Disease Prevention and Control attended the CARICOM Heads of State meeting in Barbados on 1 March 2020 to give clear guidance on how countries should proceed in their efforts to prepare their countries for a possible COVID-19 outbreak and a likely COVID-19 pandemic declaration by WHO.
• The Executive Director and Acting Director of Surveillance Disease Prevention and Control represented CARPHA at a CARICOM Heads of Government Press Conference to provide updated information on the current situation and what is being done to keep the region safe.
• The working group of CARPHA, Florida Caribbean Cruise Association (FCCA) and CDEMA met to better clarify what cruise ships will do to assist in correct and on time reporting as ensure the CMS know their rights and responsibilities.
• Participated in two Emergency Meetings of the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD) of the CARICOM to discuss the approach to a regional coordination of COVID-19.
• Hold weekly coordination meetings with PAHO regional representatives.
• Ongoing communications with CARICOM on regional health response to COVID-19.
• Held nine COVID-19 response coordination meetings with Chief Medical Officers and CARICOM.
• A full list of CARPHA actions are available in the attachment

Way Forward
CARPHA is advising that with the rapid spread of the virus from China to 87 other countries, areas or territories, including to countries in Latin America, Member States need to be alert and in a state of readiness for any imported cases and subsequent local transmission. Health authorities in CARPHA Member States must be ready to scale up health system capacity to respond rapidly; systems will need to be in place to identify, isolate, manage and treat sporadic cases, clusters and contact tracing. Countries must now be ready to respond to imported cases, from any of the countries with confirmed cases and increasingly from areas with presumed ongoing community transmission. Member States are advised to alert diseases surveillance systems for acute respiratory infections/severe acute respiratory infections and review actions in the alert phase of their pandemic preparedness plans, as a matter of urgency.

CARPHA would like to draw attention to various guidance documents, including several protocols for early investigations available from WHO website. Available from: https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/situation-reports/20200216-sitrep-27-covid-19.pdf?sfvrsn=78c0eb78_2

CARPHA is working with technical experts across the Region to provide up-to-date guidance and technical advice to CMS. CARPHA stands ready to provide support and guidance to Member States on how to strengthen their health systems response should there be person-to-person transmission in the Caribbean.

Various CARPHA documents can be accessed from our website using the embedded links:

Technical Documents
• Traveller’s Guidelines
• Algorithm for Management of a suspected case
• Guidelines for Ports of Entry
• Guidelines for Conveyances
• Algorithm for contact tracing on conveyances
• Updated Travel Brief
• Interim Guidance about the Coronavirus Disease (COVID19) for Hotels and Guesthouses in the Caribbean

Media Releases
• CARPHA raises COVID-19 alert to Very High following reports of imported cases in the Caribbean. 
• CARPHA Upgrades the Risk of Transmission of Coronavirus in the Caribbean to Moderate to High
• CARPHA Commended for Regional Response to Coronavirus COVID-19 at Heads of Government
• The Risk of 2019-nCoV Remains Low for the Caribbean but CARPHA Encourages Vigilance at Ports of Entry
• 2019-nCoV: CARPHA urges the Region to be Vigilant, Be Prepared
• Risk of Novel Coronavirus in the Caribbean "Low" says CARPHA, but Preparation Needed
• CARPHA Medical Microbiology Laboratory is Ready to Respond to 2019-nCoV

Communications Material

• Let’s Talk Coronavirus (COVID-19): Series 1: How Serious is the Coronavirus and how can I protect myself from getting the disease
• Is there a new bleach cocktail that can cure and protect against the Flu and the Novel Coronavirus?
• How is the Novel Coronavirus new? Lysol and Clorox have “Human Coronavirus” listed on their labels
• Can a surgical mask protect me from coronavirus? CARPHA Biorisk Manager explains
• Who should wear a mask for protection against coronavirus? CARPHA Biorisk Manager responds
• Card 1: Cover your nose and mouth
• Card 2: Cough or sneeze into elbow
• Myth Buster 1: Wearing a face mask will prevent me from getting coronavirus disease
• Myth Buster 2: Eating garlic can help prevent infection from the coronavirus disease

External Online Training Resources

• Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) for Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). OpenWHO
• A general introduction to emerging respiratory viruses, including novel coronaviruses (available in French, Simplified Chinese, and Spanish as well). OpenWHO
• Health and safety briefing for respiratory diseases - ePROTECT. OpenWHO
• ECDC Micro Learning platform – A suite of short (<2 hours) courses on the control of COVID-19

References


