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## **The Sharon Health Department continues to collaborate with key community individuals and municipal and school staff about the coronavirus (2019-nCoV)**



**February 5, 2020**

The Sharon Health Department continues to collaborate with key community individuals and municipal and school staff about the coronavirus (2019-nCoV), originating in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. As with any event, whether it is man-made or natural, the town has plans in place to lessen the impact on the community. We continue to encourage residents to visit the CDC website (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>) for current and accurate information.

As of February 5, 2020, there are currently 11 US confirmed cases of the coronavirus (California, Washington State, Massachusetts, Illinois, and Arizona.) The Massachusetts case was diagnosed on February 1, 2020 and the person sought immediate medical care.

According to the CDC "On January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the outbreak a "public health emergency of international concern. On January 31, 2020, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency (PHE) for the United States to aid the nation's healthcare community in responding to 2019-nCoV."

For confirmed 2019-nCoV infections, reported illnesses have ranged from infected people with little to no symptoms to people being severely ill and dying. Symptoms can include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

CDC believes at this time that symptoms of 2019-nCoV may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 after exposure."

The flu season is just beginning to peak in MA and it is not too late to get a flu shot. It is important to practice good handwashing with warm water and soap and to stay at home if you are sick. Flu vaccine is still available at the Sharon Health Department ([www.townofsharon.net](http://www.townofsharon.net))

Contact the Sharon Health Department if you have any questions or concerns.

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