



NEWS RELEASE

Public Health

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County monitoring novel coronavirus; reports no local cases

The San Bernardino County Department of Public Health (DPH) is working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to respond to recent reports of a novel (new) coronavirus. There have been six cases reported in the United States, two of these in California. No cases have been reported in San Bernardino County.

“There have been no confirmed coronavirus cases in San Bernardino County to date,” states Dr. Erin Gustafson, San Bernardino County Assistant Health Officer. “DPH is working closely with our state and federal partners to gather as much information as possible about this virus and prepare to respond. At this time, we urge the public to remain calm, as everyone in our county is very unlikely to be at risk of contracting the virus.”

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that circulate mostly among animals, including camels, cats and bats. Common symptoms in an infected human include a fever, cough and shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.

As with any virus, especially during the flu season, there are a number of steps you can take to protect your health and those around you:

- Washing hands with soap and water.
- Avoiding touching eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick are all ways to reduce the risk of infection with a number of different viruses.
- If someone does become sick with respiratory symptoms like fever and cough, they should stay away from work, school or other people to avoid spreading illness.

To learn more about coronavirus, visit the Communicable Disease Section’s Emerging Diseases webpage at wp.sbcounty.gov/dph/programs/cds/emerging-diseases or call 800-722-4794.

