

Situation Report #27: COVID-19

Ministry of Health | Health System Emergency Management
Branch

February 21, 2020

Situation:

- Case counts as of February 21, 2020:
 - - China: 75,467 cases; 2,237 deaths
 - Asia & Oceania: 1,231 cases; 9 deaths (Philippines, Hong Kong (2), Japan, Taiwan, Diamond Princess (2), South Korea (2))
 - Europe: 50 cases; 1 death (France)
 - Middle East: 28 cases; 4 deaths (Iran)
 - Africa: Egypt (1 case)
 - North America: United States (34 cases), Canada (9 cases)
 - In Ontario, there are 12 persons under investigation with lab results pending.
 - To date, there are no COVID-19 positive cases among the repatriated Canadians from Wuhan currently under quarantine at CFB Trenton.

Actions Taken:

- Patient and Visitor signage that was distributed last week is now available on the ministry's [website](#).
- The first group of repatriated citizens who were evacuated from Wuhan have now been released from quarantine.
- The ministry continues to work with federal and local partners to support the remaining repatriated citizens finishing their quarantine at CFB Trenton.
- A flight carrying passengers who were on the Diamond Princess cruise ship docked in Japan have arrived in Cornwall and have begun their 14 day quarantine period. EMAT staff are present to support primary care and the ministry is working with local health system partners to support these repatriated citizens.
- Case and contact management is underway for passengers who were on board MS Westerdam and have returned to Canada via commercial routes.

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- There has been a national reassessment of the risk level of passengers on the MS Westerdam cruise ship. Travellers will now be considered to have a medium level exposure meaning they are now required to self-monitor.
- The ministry has received numerous questions regarding when COVID-19 testing is appropriate. COVID-19 testing should be conducted when the patient meets the national case definition. While it is recommended that providers test in accordance with the current case definition, information about this virus continues to evolve. Therefore, providers may determine, based on assessment and clinical judgement, that testing for COVID-19 is appropriate outside of the case definition.

Next Steps:

- The ministry is updating guidance documents and will distribute them once they are complete.
- The ministry will work with and support local partners and the federal government regarding repatriated citizens.
- The ministry continues to work with health system partners to understand their needs with respect to personal protective equipment and other supplies.