

Awareness

“CORONA VIRUS (COVID-19)”

The World Health Organization declared the illness resulting from the new virus, COVID-19, a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. The novel coronavirus is an enveloped virus with a positive-sense single-stranded RNA genome.

SYMPTOMS

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure. Symptoms can include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

PREVENTIVE MEASURES

- There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)
- Clean your hands frequently: Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands
- Stay home if you are sick
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Wear a mask, if you are coughing or sneezing or taking care of a person with suspected coronavirus infection
- Masks are effective only when used in combination with frequent hand-cleaning
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily such as phones, tables, doorknobs, light switches etc.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue/ napkin/ handkerchief when you cough or sneeze. Alternatively, use the inside of your elbow

Facts

- There is no scientific evidence indicating that COVID-19 is transmitted through eating meat or chicken
- There is no scientific evidence indicating that COVID-19 cannot be transmitted in hot weather
- Antibiotics do not work against viruses
- COVID-19 can infect people of all ages

For more information of COVID-19 outbreak, please visit the following websites

WHO <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/>

Helpline no. Maharashtra 020-26127394/ Central 011-23978046

Compiled by: Dr Yogesh Karpe, Scientist, MACS-Agharkar Research Institute,
Pune