

## COVID-19 Border Advisory (13) – 14 March 2020

Dear Colleagues

This is the thirteenth border advisory relating to COVID-19. These Border Advisories are available on the Ministry of Health's website, along with guidance, fact sheets and updates. We encourage you to keep checking the Ministry's website for updated information at: <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

### Summary:

This Border Advisory includes the following information:

- An update on the current situation
- An update on additional border measures announced by Cabinet 14 March 2020.

### Current situation

Since the first reported cases in late December, an outbreak of COVID-19 has been on going in mainland China with the epicentre being Hubei Province, China. The number of confirmed cases reported in mainland China is trending down. The numbers of confirmed cases and deaths in the Republic of Korea, Iran and Italy continue to rise. Many European Union countries are reporting significant increases in the number of confirmed cases. There are five confirmed and two probable cases in New Zealand and the likelihood of further cases is high.

As of 13 March 2020, there are:

- 125,048 confirmed cases reported globally
- 4,613 confirmed deaths of which 3,180 were within mainland China
- 44,255 confirmed cases reported outside of mainland China
  - Italy: 12,462 confirmed cases and 827 deaths
  - Iran: 9,000 confirmed cases and 354 deaths
  - Republic of Korea: 7,869 confirmed cases and 66 deaths.
- Based on the confirmed cases reported globally, the case fatality rate varies from approximately 1 percent to 4 percent.

### Additional Border Measures announced by Cabinet 14 March 2020

Cabinet Ministers met this afternoon to decide on border measures.

Cabinet agreed to the following border measures:

- Category 1A: Mainland China and Iran: current measures continue
  - Category 1B: Travellers arriving from the rest of the world, except the Pacific. The Pacific is defined as all Pacific Islands Forum members (except French Polynesia), Associate Member Tokelau, and Observer Wallis and Futuna. All these travellers (New Zealanders and foreign nationals) will be expected to self-isolate for 14 days on arrival in New Zealand.
  - Category 2: The Pacific. All these travellers (New Zealanders and foreign nationals) will be expected to self-isolate if they show symptoms within 14 days of arrival.
  - Self-isolation expectations do not apply to air (including positioning crew) and marine crew who have taken appropriate infection control and PPE measures as required.
  - The new Category 1B and Category 2 designations will take effect from 23:59 Sunday 15 March 2020, for a duration of 16 days, and will be reviewed by Monday 30 March 2020.
  - A temporary ban on the entry of cruise ships to New Zealand's territorial waters on public health grounds, will take effect from 23:59 on 14 March 2020.
  - The border measures do not apply to cargo ships or marine crew, to keep sea freight routes open for imports and exports, including essential supplies.
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**Ministry of Health is working closely with border agencies and stakeholders to implement these measures.**

**We are urgently adapting operational guidance to support the implementation of these changes and will circulate this as soon as possible.**

**Public health officials are present at all international airports. Health officials will ensure that all travellers arriving into New Zealand are provided with health advice cards and advice on self isolation.**

### **Further information and resources**

The COVID-19 webpages are updated daily: <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

Advice for airline crew <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-information-specific-audiences/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-advice-airline-crew>

Advice on general cleaning <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-information-specific-audiences/general-cleaning-information-covid-19>

Advice for hotel operators and staff <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-information-specific-audiences/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-information-hotels-and-hotel-staff>

Advice on personal protective measures <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-information-specific-audiences/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-resources-health-professionals>

Advice for travellers <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-information-specific-audiences/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-advice-travellers>

Advice on self isolation <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-health-advice-general-public/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-self-isolation>

Advice on caring for yourself and others who have, or may have, COVID-19 at home <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-health-advice-general-public/caring-yourself-and-others-who-have-or-may-have-covid-19-home>

All of Government Factsheet for Welfare Support: information on what welfare support is available for people who may be self-isolating or are not sure what assistance may be is available here <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-resources> or phone the 0800 Government Helpline on 0800 779 997 (9am–5pm, seven days/week). For health specific questions, please call Healthline directly on 0800 611 116 (24 hours/day, seven days/week).

Border advisories <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-information-specific-audiences/covid-19-resources-border-sector>

Current case definition <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-information-specific-audiences/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-resources-health-professionals/case-definition-covid-19-infection>

General information about COVID-19 <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-health-advice-general-public>

Information for the border sector

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-information-specific-audiences/covid-19-resources-border-sector>

Public events and mass gatherings <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-information-specific-audiences/covid-19-advice-public-events-and-mass-gatherings>

World Health Organization situation updates and advice: <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus> and <https://www.who.int/csr/don/en>(updates only).

World Health Organization guidance: Operational considerations for managing COVID-19 cases/outbreak on board ships <https://www.who.int/publications-detail/operational-considerations-for-managing-covid-19-cases-outbreak-on-board-ships>

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