

# 2019 N-CoV/ COVID-19 Update

Grey County  
February 13, 2020

# Today

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# What is 2019 n-Cov/COVID-19?

## **Coronavirus:**

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses from the common cold to more serious respiratory infections like bronchitis, pneumonia or severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS).

- ▶ spread mainly from person to person through close contact
- ▶ severe disease may be likely if you have a weakened immune system
  - ▶ older people
  - ▶ people with chronic disease (for example, diabetes, cancer, heart, renal or chronic lung disease)

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov#section-1>

# What is 2019 n-Cov/COVID-19?

## The 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19, previously called 2019-nCoV)

- ▶ COVID-19 is a respiratory infection that originated in Wuhan, China.
- ▶ The first presumptive case of this virus in **Ontario** was identified on January 25, 2020, and has evidence of human-to-human transmission.
- ▶ Majority of cases globally are either in, or related to travel to mainland China.

# Situation Today

## World

- ▶ <https://gisanddata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6>

## Canada

- ▶ 7 Confirmed positive cases (4 British Columbia, 3 Ontario)

## Ontario

- ▶ 3 Confirmed positive cases (2 Toronto, 1 London)

## Grey Bruce

- ▶ 0 cases

# What is Public Health doing?

- ▶ Regular communications with the province through teleconferences
- ▶ Sharing provincial guidance documents and consulting with health care partners (hospitals, primary care physicians, community care, paramedics)
  - ▶ Including working with hospital and provincial lab to manage recent person under investigation
- ▶ Communication with education sector, workplaces, municipalities/counties (CEMC), general public (press releases, consultations, helplines, website)
- ▶ Preparing internally

# What are we doing internally?

- ▶ Incident management team- IMS
  - ▶ MOH, Physician consultant, Communications, Emergency Manager, Infectious Disease Manager
- ▶ Tracking the situation
- ▶ Risk assessments
- ▶ Preparations of Infectious Diseases team
  - ▶ Case management
  - ▶ Contact management
  - ▶ Managing existing respiratory/influenza outbreaks
- ▶ Personal Protective Equipment stock review

# Considerations for Municipalities

- ▶ Review and assess the readiness of emergency / pandemic response plan
- ▶ Encourage prevention of spread of disease for staff (influenza and other diseases) ongoing
- ▶ Messaging
  - ▶ Ensure it is timely, credible and consistent with Public Health messaging
  - ▶ MOH recommendations, directives, orders and requests may be provided
  - ▶ Follow Public Health Updates and guidance
- ▶ Inventory of PPE (those with LTC, EMS)
- ▶ Assess level of environmental cleaning
- ▶ Identify areas of potential spread of infection during outbreaks (gatherings, events)
- ▶ Ensure accurate list of community partners, their roles and contact information (hospital, funeral homes)



# What can you do as an individual?

- ▶ Stay informed
- ▶ <https://www.ontario.ca/page/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov>
- ▶ Prevent the spread of germs that cause respiratory illnesses
  - ▶ wash your hands often with soap and water
  - ▶ sneeze and cough into your sleeve
  - ▶ avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth
  - ▶ avoid contact with people who are sick
  - ▶ stay home if you are sick
- ▶ The cold and flu can cause serious illness, and are still the highest risk respiratory infections in the Grey Bruce region

Questions?



[www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca](http://www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca)

519-376-9420

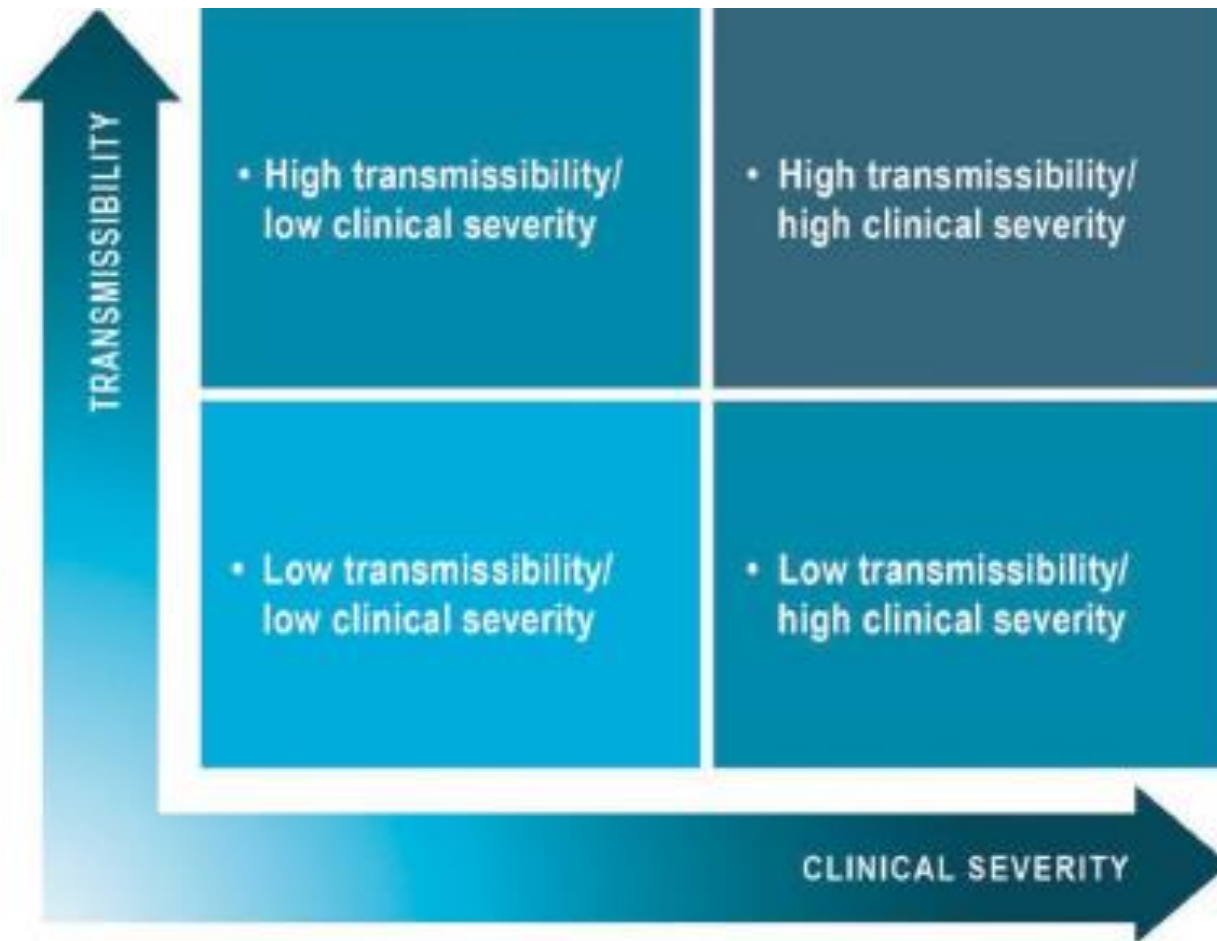


FIGURE 1. FOUR SEVERITY SCENARIOS USED IN THE OHPIP

# COVID-19

- ▶ Under agreed guidelines between WHO, the World Organisation for Animal Health and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, we had to find a name that did not refer to a geographical location, an animal, an individual or group of people, and which is also pronounceable and related to the disease.
- ▶ Having a name matters to prevent the use of other names that can be inaccurate or stigmatizing. It also gives us a standard format to use for any future coronavirus outbreaks.
- ▶ (WHO, 2020)

# Human Health Emergencies

## Definitions

- ▶ **Human Health Emergency:** *'A widespread and/or severe epidemic, incident of contamination or other situation that presents a danger to, or otherwise negatively impacts, the general health and well being of the human population' (EMO, 2005).*
- ▶ **Epidemic:** *Major incidents of human illness caused by the transmission of a specific disease. The occurrence, in a community or region, of cases of an illness (or an outbreak), with a frequency clearly in excess of normal (EMO, 2005).*
- ▶ **Pandemic:** *An epidemic occurring worldwide or over a very wide area, crossing boundaries of several countries, and usually affecting a large number of people (WHO, 2007).*