

Ref: OSHE 008/20

8 February 2020

All Staff and Students

2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (2019-nCoV) – ADVISORY ON DORSCON ORANGE AND ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES – CIRCULAR 6

Dear Colleagues and Students

Please take note of the latest updates on the 2019-nCoV situation pertaining to staff and students of NUS:

LATEST

- The Singapore Government has stepped up risk assessment from **DORSCON Yellow to DORSCON Orange**. There is no widespread transmission in Singapore and the virus is being contained.
- From **Monday, 10 February 2020**:
 - All staff and students will be required to take their temperature twice daily and declare them in an online system.
 - All visitors to NUS buildings and offices will need to undergo temperature screening.
 - All NUS staff and students are required to display their staff card or student card at all times on campus.
 - E-learning will be implemented for classes with more than 50 students. Staff and students in class sizes of 50 and below will be allowed into class.
 - All events and activities on NUS campuses involving more than 50 participants are to be cancelled or deferred until further notice.
 - More information on the temperature screening stations will be available at the [NUS Emergency website](#) from 10.00pm tomorrow (9 February).

1. DORSCON ORANGE

In light of the evolving 2019-nCoV situation in the country, the Ministry of Health (MOH) has stepped up their risk assessment from Disease Outbreak Response System Condition (DORSCON) Yellow to Orange (see [MOH press release](#)).

Under DORSCON Orange, the virus is severe and spreads easily from person to person, However, there is no widespread transmission in Singapore and the virus is being contained.

The University has ramped up precautionary measures to ensure the safety and well-being of our community.

FROM MONDAY, 10 FEBRUARY 2020:

2. DAILY TEMPERATURE TAKING

All staff and students will be required to take their temperature **twice daily (morning and afternoon) and declare them in an online system** via the website: <https://myaces.nus.edu.sg/htd/>. **The first declaration must be completed before you come to campus, whether for class or work.** Random spot checks will be conducted at the start of class or work to ensure strict compliance.

You should also take photographs of the thermometer reading with a date-time stamp and retain the images for seven days, as you may be asked to upload the images for verification.

All staff and students are encouraged to use their own thermometers for the twice daily temperature taking. Students may use the thermometers given to them during their freshman orientation. Students who require thermometers may pick up them up at their Faculty/School. Faculties/Schools will be providing more information on their collection locations in due course.

Anyone with a fever ($\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$), who is unwell or shows respiratory symptoms such as cough and runny nose should see a doctor immediately.

3. TEMPERATURE SCREENING FOR VISITORS

All visitors to NUS buildings and offices will need to undergo temperature screening at screening stations that are being set up across NUS campuses (Kent Ridge Campus, Bukit Timah Campus and Duke-NUS Medical School).

More information about the visitor temperature screening arrangements on NUS campuses (Kent Ridge Campus, Bukit Timah Campus and Duke-NUS Medical School) will be available at the [NUS Emergency website](#) after 10.00pm tomorrow (9 February).

4. STAFF AND STUDENT CARDS

All NUS staff and students are required to display their staff card or student card on campus.

5. E-LEARNING

- **Classes with more than 50 students:** E-learning will be implemented (i.e., no in-person classes will be conducted). Students should contact their respective course instructors directly about the e-learning arrangements for their affected classes.
- **Classes with 50 and fewer students:** Classes to continue as usual. For the first few days, instructors will enforce temperature checks before the start of class.
- The Office of the Senior Deputy President and Provost will shortly be sending more information on the e-learning arrangements.

6. LARGE SCALE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

All events and activities on NUS campuses **involving more than 50 participants** are to be **cancelled or deferred** until further notice.

7. BUSINESS CONTINUITY AT NUS

All NUS units should start working on their business continuity plans as a precautionary measure in the event of widespread community transmission. These plans can include allowing staff to work from home or dividing the manpower into segregated teams.

I ask that all staff and students abide by these enhanced measures for the safety and health of our community.

If you have any further questions, please write to email: nCoV@nus.edu.sg or contact the management office of your department.

Thank you.

Professor Yong Kwet Yew
Senior Vice President
On behalf of Crisis Executive Group

Stay updated:

- Daily updates from our Dean of Students can be seen [here](#).
- NUS circulars, FAQs, emergency contact numbers, as well as useful links on the novel coronavirus situation are available at emergency.nus.edu.sg.
- Please refer to the [MOH website](#) for the latest information on the evolving novel coronavirus situation in Singapore.