

Ref: OSHE 004/20

27 January 2020

All Staff and Students

IMPORTANT ADVISORY ON NOVEL CORONAVIRUS PNEUMONIA – CIRCULAR 2

Dear Colleagues and Students

Please take note of the following information pertaining to staff, students and visitors to NUS.

For Staff and Students

A. Staff¹ and students with planned overseas trips to mainland China from Jan to Mar 2020

- Please defer your official travel to mainland China with immediate effect.
- You are strongly encouraged to defer your personal trips to mainland China.

B. Staff¹ and students who returned from mainland China between 13 Jan and 27 Jan 2020:

AND

Staff¹ and students currently in mainland China, and who will be returning on or after 27 Jan 2020:

If you are well	If you are sick ²
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Do not report to work or attend classes for 14 days upon return to Singapore.</u>³• <u>Teaching staff, research staff, and students will be given official Leave of Absence. Administrative staff will work from home.</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Do not report to work or attend classes.</u>• Put on a disposal surgical mask immediately.• Visit a doctor immediately and declare your travel history and

¹ Includes collaborators, casual staff and contractors working on campus. Collaborators, casual staff and contractors are, however, not required to report their travel plans to NUS.

² Any of the following: Cough, sore throat, breathlessness, fever (>37.5°C) and runny nose.

³ Day 0 is the day of return to Singapore. You may return to work or attend classes on Day 15 if you did not develop any symptoms during the 14 days.

If you are well	If you are sick ²
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Staff: Inform your Head of Department. ○ Undergraduate students: Inform your Vice Dean (Undergraduate). ○ Graduate students: Inform your Vice Dean (Graduate) and your academic supervisor. ● For students staying in NUS hostels: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identify yourself to your hostel Master or Residential Advisor (RAD). ○ Hostel residents who have homes in Singapore must quarantine themselves at home for 14 days upon return to Singapore. ○ Hostel residents who do not have homes in Singapore will be quarantined in individual rooms for 14 days upon return to Singapore. Arrangements will be made for food to be delivered to your rooms. ○ Masks will be provided to those under self-quarantine, and they should be worn at all times if there is a need to move out of the quarantine area. ● Exercise caution and attention to personal hygiene (see Appendix 1). ● Monitor personal health for the next 14 days upon return to Singapore ● Take your temperature daily and report via website https://myaces.nus.edu.sg/htd/ 	<p>contact history (see Appendix 2 for list of hospitals and GP clinics).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Inform your respective management office (Dean's Office, hostel Master, RAD, etc.).

C. All other staff¹ and students:

If you are well	If you are sick ²
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercise caution and attention to personal hygiene (see Appendix 1). • Staff and students staying in the hostels are to take temperature daily and report via website: https://myaces.nus.edu.sg/htd/ • If you are intending to travel overseas for personal as well as official trips between Jan and Mar, please submit your travel plans at: https://aces.nus.edu.sg/OverseasTravelDecl/. Please launch your webVPN (http://webvpn.nus.edu.sg) before accessing this app. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Do not report to work or attend classes.</u> • Put on a disposal surgical mask immediately. • Visit a doctor immediately and declare your contact history i.e. if you have been in close proximity contact⁴ with individuals who have recently visited mainland China. • Inform your respective management office (e.g. Dean's Office, hostel Master, RAD, etc.).

For Visitors to NUS

D. Invited visitors from mainland China who have been in Singapore since 13 Jan:

Upon arrival	If visitor is sick ²
<p>Host department to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain contact details of visitors. • Inform visitors to delay their visit to NUS for 14 days upon arrival to Singapore. • Inform visitors to monitor personal health and take daily temperature for 14 days upon arrival to Singapore. • Provide health advisory (Appendix 1) and list of clinics/hospitals (Appendix 2). • Provide surgical masks for visitors as part of their welcome packs. 	<p>Visitor is to immediately:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put on a disposal surgical mask. • Inform the host office and delegation leader. • Visit a doctor and declare travel history and contact history (Appendix 2).

⁴ Anyone who has provided care for the patient, including a health care worker or family member, or who had other similar close physical contact; and anyone who stayed (e.g. lived with, visited) at the same place as a case.

Upon arrival	If visitor is sick ²
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure visitors wear the disposable surgical masks provided during their visit to NUS. 	

E. Invited visitors from other countries, including those who transited in mainland China (without leaving the airport), and who are already in Singapore:

Upon arrival	If visitor is sick ²
Host department to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtain contact details of visitors. Provide health advisory (Appendix 1) and list of clinics/hospitals (Appendix 2). 	Visitor is to immediately: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put on a disposal surgical mask. Inform the host office and delegation leader. Visit a doctor and declare travel history and contact history (Appendix 2).

F. Visitors from mainland China who are scheduled to visit NUS between Jan and Mar 2020

- Defer all visits to Singapore to a later date, until further notice.

G. Visitors from other countries who are scheduled to visit NUS between Jan and Mar 2020

- The NUS host is to inform overseas visitors of the following:

1.	Defer travel to Singapore if they are unwell any time within 14 days before departure to Singapore.
2.	Advise them to refer to the Ministry of Health's website (www.moh.gov.sg) as well as the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority website (www.ica.gov.sg) for the latest information concerning travellers to Singapore.

Government Quarantine Facilities at Prince George's Park Residences

We would also like to inform you that four blocks in Prince George's Park Residences (PGPR) (Type A Rooms in Blocks 5, 6, 7 and 8) have been designated by authorities as Government Quarantine Facilities (GQF) to support the Singapore Government's response plan for emergencies, in the ongoing national effort to address the evolving novel coronavirus situation in Singapore.

GQFs may be used to quarantine lower risk individuals who have not shown any symptoms, but who have come into contact with suspected or confirmed cases. Individuals who show symptoms

will be transferred to designated hospitals for further evaluation. The GQF at PGPR will be used for NUS international staff and students who have been issued quarantine orders by the authorities, if any. Care for quarantined individuals at our GQF being put in place includes provision of daily meals and essential items. They will be delivered to our quarantined staff and students, who will not come into contact with the general NUS population.

We seek the cooperation of our quarantined staff and students to stay within their designated GQF rooms during the required quarantine period when the GQF is in operation. The joint media statement by the Ministry of National Development and Ministry of Education on GQFs that was issued today is in Appendix 3.

Please be assured that the University will put in place all necessary safety measures to ensure the health and well-being of the NUS community.

If you have any further questions, please contact the management office of your department.

Thank you.

Dr Peck Thian Guan
Director
Office of Safety, Health and Environment

Appendix 1

Health Advisory

Travellers and members of the public should adopt the following precautions at all times:

1. Avoid contact with live animals including poultry and birds, and consumption of raw and undercooked meats;
2. Avoid close contact with people who are unwell or showing symptoms of illness;
3. Observe good personal hygiene;
4. Practise frequent hand washing with soap (e.g. before handling food or eating, after going to toilet, or when hands are soiled by respiratory secretions after coughing or sneezing);
5. Wear a mask if you have respiratory symptoms such as a cough or runny nose;
6. Cover your mouth with a tissue paper when coughing or sneezing, and dispose the soiled tissue paper in the rubbish bin immediately; and
7. Seek medical attention promptly if you are feeling unwell.

For more information, please refer to: <https://www.moh.gov.sg/2019-ncov-wuhan>

Appendix 2

A. List of GP Clinics and Hospitals near NUS

1. University Health Centre (www.nus.edu.sg/uhc)
2. National University Hospital (www.nuh.com.sg)
3. List of hospitals – www.healthhub.sg/directory/hospitals
4. List of GP clinics – www.healthhub.sg/directory/clinics-and-polyclinics

B. Telephone for private ambulance: 1777

Appendix 3

27 January 2020

JOINT MEDIA STATEMENT BY THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SINGAPORE

1 Quarantine refers to the isolation of well persons who may have been exposed to an infectious agent (such as those who are close contacts with confirmed 2019-nCoV cases) and may be infected but are not yet ill. This is to prevent the persons from potentially infecting others if he/she is infected and subsequently comes down with symptoms. A Quarantine Order will be issued to the person to compel him/ her to be isolated at a designated place for a specified period of time.

2 The Government will ensure that all persons served with quarantine orders (QOs) will be housed in appropriate locations, including accommodation for people who are unable to serve their Quarantine Order (QO) at home. Suitable Government Quarantine Facilities (GQFs) have been identified in Singapore, including chalets and hostels.

3 GQFs are part of the Government's response plan for emergencies and may be activated from time to time, in preparation for the possibility that the GQF will be needed to be used as quarantine housing to prevent the spread of the 2019-nCoV amongst the community. We have designated specific hostel blocks in the National University of Singapore (NUS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and Singapore Management University (SMU) as GQFs. These rooms are meant to be activated, only in the scenario where an international student is required to serve a quarantine order. Our Autonomous Universities (AUs) will ensure that alternative accommodations would be provided for affected international students, where necessary.

4 The GQFs will undergo a thorough cleaning process, according to guidelines from MOH. Care will be taken to make sure the rooms are safe for stay. As people staying at the GQFs are not supposed to come into contact with others, this eliminates the possibility of the spread of virus through person-to-person contact.