

## **Novel Coronavirus FAQs**

### **Situation Summary**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is closely monitoring an outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. On February 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced an official name for the disease that is causing the 2019 novel coronavirus outbreak, COVID-19. Additional cases have been identified in a growing number of other [international locations](#), including the United States. There are ongoing investigations to learn more.

### **Convention Travel to Singapore**

#### **Q: Will it be safe to travel to Singapore for the 2020 Lions Clubs International Convention?**

A: At this time, the spread of COVID-19 is not expected to impact travel to the 2020 Lions Clubs International Convention to Singapore in June. This is a rapidly evolving situation, so it is not possible to know how this disease will progress and what new travel restrictions may or may not be in place this far in advance. If you are in the process of booking pre- or post-convention travel, please be sure to check the terms of your travel insurance policy to see what is covered in the event your plans change. The safety and health of our members is our top priority. We will continue to keep our Lions updated about any pending travel warnings.

#### **Q: How is the novel coronavirus impacting Singapore?**

The Government of Singapore raised its Disease Outbreak Response System Condition ([DORSCON](#)) from yellow to orange on February 7, 2020. DORSCON level orange means the COVID-19 virus is severe and spreads easily from person to person, but that there is currently no widespread transmission in Singapore and the virus is being contained with moderate disruptions to daily life.

#### **Q: How can I reduce my risk of infection?**

A: The Singapore Ministry of Health, CDC, and the World Health Organization have all published similar recommendations on what you can do to reduce your risk of infection. These include:

- Washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Practice safe food handling and avoid animal markets.
- Keep your workspace and living spaces clean.

**Q: What are the vaccine requirements for traveling to Singapore?**

A: You should visit your doctor at least a month before your trip to get vaccines or medicines you may need. For travel to Singapore, all travelers should be up-to-date on routine vaccinations, including measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine, varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, polio vaccine, and your yearly flu shot. The CDC also recommends getting vaccinated for Hepatitis A and Typhoid before traveling to Singapore. For a full list of recommended vaccinations, visit the [CDC's website](#).

**Please continue to check the travel recommendations from the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#), the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) or your local government alerts for any new updates.**