**New Coronavirus: What We Know**

**带您了解新型冠状病毒**

More than 100 people have now died from the new coronavirus. The number of people infected in mainland China increased sharply in one day -- from 2,700 Monday to more than 4,500 Tuesday. The increase comes even as China takes strong measures to contain the spread of the disease.

目前已有100多人死于新型冠状病毒。中国大陆的感染人数在一天内急剧增加——从周一的2700人增加到周二的4500多人。尽管中国采取了强有力的措施来控制疾病的传播，但是仍然出现了这一增长。

What is a coronavirus?

什么是冠状病毒?

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that cause disease in mammals and birds. Coronaviruses can cause illnesses that range from the common cold to much more severe illnesses like Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

冠状病毒是引起哺乳动物和鸟类疾病的一大类病毒。冠状病毒可导致普通的感冒疾病也可能导致更严重的疾病，如中东呼吸综合征(MERS)和严重急性呼吸综合征(SARS)。

Experts still do not have a clear picture of the severity of the new coronavirus.

专家们对这种新型冠状病毒的严重程度仍然没有一个清晰的认识。

What is a new coronavirus?

什么是新型冠状病毒?

Officials are calling the disease a “novel” or new coronavirus because it has not been found before in humans.

官方称这种疾病是一种“新型的”或新的冠状病毒，因为此前在人类身上没有发现过这种病毒。

The newly identified virus is thought to have spread to humans from wild animals sold at a market in Wuhan, in central China’s Hubei province. But it is now spreading between people.

这种新发现的病毒被认为是从中国中部湖北省武汉市一个市场上出售的野生动物身上传播给人类的。但它现在在人与人之间传播。

Chinese officials say the disease is able to spread from one person to another even before any actual signs appear. This makes it especially hard to contain.

中国官方称，这种疾病能够在没有任何实际症状的情况下进行人与人之间的传播。这使得它特别难控制。

What are the signs of the new coronavirus?

新冠状病毒有什么症状?

Signs of the disease among infected patients have included fever, cough, shortness of breath and general breathing difficulties. In more severe cases, the virus can cause pneumonia.

受感染患者的症状包括发烧、咳嗽、呼吸短促和一般呼吸困难，一些严重病例中出现病毒引发的肺炎。

Some people report few or no signs, while others have gotten very sick or even died.

一些受感染的人甚至几乎没有或者完全没有症状，而有些受感染的人则会身患重病甚至死亡。

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that signs of the virus may appear between two and 14 days after being near someone who is infected.

美国疾病控制和预防中心报告称，在接近被感染者后2到14天内可能会出现病毒感染迹象。

Treatment and Prevention

治疗和预防

There is no special treatment for the new coronavirus. However, many of its effects are treatable, as long as a patient is in fair health.

目前针对这种新型冠状病毒并没有特殊的治疗方法。然而，只要病人身体够健康，感染者还是可治愈的。

Because the virus is so new among humans, there is no available vaccine to protect against the disease. But the World Health Organization advises people to avoid close contact with anyone showing signs of a breathing sickness, such as coughing or sneezing. It also says people should wash their hands often and use safe food practices.

由于对人类而言这还是一种新病毒，因此尚没有可用的疫苗来预防这种疾病。但世界卫生组织建议人们避免与任何有呼吸疾病症状的人近距离接触，症状如咳嗽或打喷嚏。同时还建议人们要勤洗手，并遵守安全烹食的方法。

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control also published prevention tips. It says wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water; avoid touching your face with unwashed hands; stay home when you are sick; and clean objects and surfaces that are touched often.

美国疾病控制中心也发布了预防建议。建议称用肥皂和水洗手至少20秒;避免用未洗过的手摸脸;生病尽量待在家里;清洁经常接触的物体和表面。

I’m Ashley Thompson.

阿什利·汤普森报道。

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