The American Holistic Nurses Association (AHNA) supports the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in acknowledging the immediate global public health risk of the COVID-19.

This update is intended to provide our members with the most accurate and up to date information on the date of issuance.

CDC update as of 2/14/2020; In addition to Washington, California, Arizona, Illinois, and Massachusetts, cases of COVID-19 have been identified in the states of Texas and Wisconsin. The virus is present in 29 countries, and now a 4th continent, with the inclusion of Egypt.


Roundup: Tech’s role in tracking, testing, treating COVID-19 With the cases of COVID-19 increasing, we are seeing a rise in digital epidemiology tools, chatbot helpers, EHR guidance tools and rapid response test kits.

The World Health Organization developed an online COVID-19 education course for the public; a valuable resource for patients and clients with questions. https://openwho.org/courses/introduction-to-ncov

The United Nations health agency is developing a COVID-19 virus treatment master plan including coordinating clinical trials that could lead to potential therapies for patients infected with the COVID-19 virus. https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/02/1057281

An individual in Oahu, Hawaii, identified as having COVID-19; per state epidemiologist Dr. Park, the patient exhibited cold-like symptoms with no fever. I have alerted physicians that it’s possible that cases may surface sometime before Feb. 21 because the onset of illness is
generally within 14 days.” Per Hawaii Department of Transportation, as of Feb 3rd there have been no additional direct flights from mainland China to Hawaii.


2/17/2020 AM - @Dr.Tedros The World Health Organization tweeted: “Over 80% of patients have mild #COVID19 & will recover. In about 14% of cases, the virus causes severe disease, including pneumonia and shortness of breath. And about 5% of patients have critical disease including respiratory failure, septic shock & multi-organ failure.”

Feb 13, 2020 via WHO: In Hubei province only, a trained medical professional can now classify a suspected case of COVID-19 as a clinically-confirmed case on the basis of chest imaging, rather than having to have a laboratory confirmation, ensuring that people get to clinical care, and allowing contact tracing and a public health response to be initiated more quickly. https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/13-02-2020-remarks-by-dr-michael-ryan-executive-director-who-health-emergencies-programme-at-media-briefing-on-covid-19-on-13-february-2020

FEB 14, 2020 Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Arza said the U.S. is hoping to send scientists to China to study the coronavirus. Arza expects to see more cases in the United States, but says the current risk to American public remains low. The U.S. has sent nearly 18 million tons of privately donated supplies, including masks and hospital gowns, to Wuhan. The same day, Dr. Anthony Fauci of the National Institutes of Health reported the anti-viral drug Remdesivir had shown positive results in fighting COVID-19. He said randomized clinical trials of the drug are underway in China. He also said work on a vaccine is on track and anticipates phase one trial testing in about 2 1/2 months.


· CONFIRMED CASE OF COVID-19 IN A PERSON WHO HAD BEEN UNDER QUARANTINE FACILITATED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT AT LACKLAND AFB (TX). There are more than 600 people still quarantined in the United States after return from the epicenter of the outbreak in China.
· Regarding Incubation: The Outer-bound incubation period we are now using is 14 days. Based upon what we now know we believe this virus spreads via respiratory droplets from coughing or sneezing in close contact; defined at about six feet.
· The highest degree of contagion is when the patient is the most symptomatic- it is compatible with what we know about other respiratory virus including influenza.
· 2/13/2020 China’s Vice Minister of National Health Commission announced over 1700 of its healthcare workers are infected with COVID-19. When infection control is not of highest priority, transmission amplifies in healthcare settings.
· The CDC is leveraging existing influenza surveillance systems to conduct community influenza based surveillance, testing those with flu-like symptoms for COVID-19. Public Health labs are in 5 major cities at this time, with plans to expand across the country. “This is an extra layer of response that will help us detect if and when this virus is spreading”.
· Regarding Plans for Mitigation: When we focus on the disruption and the community, trying to decrease the burden, mortality, morbidity at a societal level through social distancing, school and event closures, canceling mass gatherings, these non-pharmaceutical interventions, as well as telemedicine, teleworking, we try to disrupt the spread. In a situation like this where we do not yet have a vaccine or counter measure those interventions at a community level are important.

New Resource for Coding / Medical Billing related to COVID-19: