# 2019 Novel Coronavirus Outbreak

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#### SARS and MERS

- Pre-SARS (2002),  $\alpha$ -coronaviruses inconsequential
- β-coronaviruses- primarily cause lower respiratory tract infections, pneumonia
- High case fatality rates

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	SARS	MERS
Cases	8098	2494
Deaths	774	858
Case fatality rate	9.50%	34.40%
Controlled	Yes after reached pandemic	No, continued transmission
Other features	58% cases nosocomial transmission	70% cases nosocomial transmission
Zoonotic Transmission	Himalayan palm civets	Dromedaries
Outbreak Emergence	Guangzhou, China	Saudi Arabia

# Emergence of SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 disease



#### Transmission

- Similar to seasonal influenza
- Droplet- Primary mode, can travel <6 feet (or more?)
- Hands
- Fomites (surfaces)
- Airborne (small droplets)
- Probable: gastrointestinal



- Large droplets (>100 µm) : Fast deposition due to the domination of gravitational force
- Medium droplets between 5 and 100 µm
- Small droplets or droplet nuclei, or aerosols (< 5 µm): Responsible for airborne transmission



### Travel distance is 2x farther than expected

#### New Research from China:

- Can linger in the air for at least 30 minutes
- Travel up to 15 feet

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- days on glass, tabric, metal, plastic or paper.

"Our advice is to wear a face mask all the way through the bus ride"

<ul> <li>Last for days on surfaces where</li> </ul>	
respiratory droplets land	
<ul> <li>It can survive for two to three</li> </ul>	
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## Severity of Symptoms

- R<sub>0</sub>: 2.24 (95% Cl: 1.96-2.55)
- Mean incubation period: 5.1 days
  - 97.5% of symptomatic individuals will develop symptoms within 11.5 days
- Most reported: fever, cough, shortness of breath, muscle ache
- ? % Asymptomatic
- 81% Mild disease (includes mild pneumonia)
- 14% Severe
- 5% Critical

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- Case Fatality Rate (CFR) 2.3%  $\rightarrow$  3.4%  $\rightarrow$  ?
- Severity increases with comorbidities

Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) and Chih-Cheng Lai<sup>a</sup>, Tzu-Ping Shih<sup>b</sup>, Wen-Chien Ko<sup>c</sup>, Hung-Jen Tang<sup>d</sup>, Po-Ren Hsueh<sup>e,f,\*</sup>

#### Coronavirus COVID-19 Global Cases by Johns Hopkins CSSE



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# Accurate case counts are needed to inform government decision making.



### Case counting is an effort itself

- Contact tracing
  - Community transmission is rapidly increasing, soon contract tracing will be obsolete and tracking the spread will be impossible
- Who's managing the outbreak & how?
  - Chain of command
  - Reporting system
- Where is the command center (is the ICS system activated?)



## As cases continue to increase the healthcare system will begin to be overburdened.



#### Goal: Flatten the Curve



#### Time since first case

Adapted from CDC / The Economist



## Hospital preparedness for influx of patients

- Current Hospital Capacity
- Nursing homes
  - Dr. Tom Frieden: "It's time to restrict visits to nursing homes"
- Where would overflow hospitals go?
- How many negative pressure rooms and emergency tents are available
- PPE supplies, will there be shortages?
- Emergency transportations—only EMS? Private ambulances?



### **Organization of COVID-19 Tests**

- Who is eligible?
- Centralized or decentralized testing?
- How many tests are in LA hospitals?
- How to achieve rapid, safe testing?
- Cost of test for un- & under-insured?
- How much can PHL test per day?
- Will there be run off labs?
- Syndromic surveillance + self-quarantine to free up hospital system



Eventually mass action will need to take place. In order to achieve this, several things have to happen at once.



## Closings

Schools, work, public transit all related, can't cancel one without the others

- How to incentivize businesses to follow guidelines and close?
- "Snow day" restrictions
- Commerce
  - Telecommuting
  - Issue: hourly workers who can't work from home
- Public transit
- Close mass gatherings



As advice and restrictions change, city messaging must be clear and offer two-way communication.



#### Establishing public trust via competent messaging

- Provider Messaging
  - Health Alert Network (HAN)
  - Weekly provider calls
- Public Messaging
  - Clear messages and asks
  - How to quarantine effectively
  - Centralized website for public notification
  - Proper channels for notifying officials
  - Telemedicine
- Public Q&A channels for providers and public health officials
  - Portals, forums, call centers

Key Issue: How to create successful containment methods without disenfranchising Angelinos?



# **Special populations will need specific protocols and consideration**



### Homeless populations

The congregate housing and shared bathrooms of shelters make them ripe for rapid disease spread.

- Baseline: high rates of uncontrolled chronic disease, high rates of mental health issues, high rates of substance use
- Challenges to both shelter-based and street-based populations
  - Need homeless-specific protocols
- Shelter crowding- social distancing impossible
  - Room isolation for symptomatic or test-positive individuals?
- Plan for COVID-19 positive individuals
  - How will hospitals handle a COVID-19 positive individual



#### **Detained populations**

- Prisons and ICE detention facilities will need their own protocols
- Baseline: Higher underlying comorbidies, older average age
- Correctional health systems are built to take care of one patient at a time



# Early and preventative actions are critical.



#### 1918 Flu Pandemic: St. Louis vs Philly

- The 1918 influenza pandemic estimated 500,000–675,000 deaths in the U.S.
- Philadelphia downplayed severity of disease
  - City-wide parade on September 28, 1918
  - Social distancing interventions were not implemented until October 3
  - Disease spread had already begun to overwhelm local medical and public health resources.
- St. Louis reacted quickly

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• Cases reported on October 5, broad series of measures implementing on October 7



# Thank you

