What is a novel coronavirus?

Novel (meaning “new”) coronavirus is a virus strain that has only spread in people since December 2019. Health experts are concerned because little is known about this new virus and it has the potential to cause severe illness in some people.

How does novel coronavirus spread?

Health experts are still learning the details about how this new coronavirus spreads. Other coronaviruses spread from an infected person to others through:

- The air by coughing and sneezing
- Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands
- Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes
- In rare cases, contact with feces (poop)

How severe is novel coronavirus?

Health experts are still learning about the illness caused by the new virus. People infected have had illness that has ranged from mild (like a common cold) to severe pneumonia that requires medical care in a hospital. So far, deaths have been reported mainly in older adults who had other health conditions.

What are the symptoms?

People who have been diagnosed with novel coronavirus have symptoms that may appear in as few as two days or as long as 14 days after exposure to the virus. Symptoms may include fever, cough, and shortness of breath.
Coronavirus Resources

- NJDOH – General Information Page
  - https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml
- CDC – General Information Page
- CDC – Home Isolation Guide
- NJDOH – Local Health Department Directory
  - www.localhealth.nj.gov

Pequannock Health Department

Health Officer

Peter Correale
973-835-5700 X128

Public Health Nurses

Jean Vrablik, RN
973-835-5700 X 109

Susan DeGraw, RN
973-835-5700 X 135

Coronavirus Hotline

24-Hour Public Hotline (中文)

1-800-222-1222

Trained healthcare professionals are standing by to answer questions about coronavirus. The call is free.