

28 February 2020

Telephone: 03 364 1777

Fax: 03 379 6484

**National Health Advisory
Notification of updated case definition for COVID-19****Case Definition update (27 February 2020)**

The Ministry of Health's Technical Advisory Group (TAG) has revised the case definition for COVID-19. The TAG has updated its advice to include two categories for countries or areas of concern.

People who travel to New Zealand from or via (excluding airport transit) those countries listed in category one in the last 14 days should self-isolate for 14 days and contact Healthline.

Anyone who has travelled from or via all countries listed in both categories and has clinically compatible symptoms should be considered a suspect COVID-19 case and testing performed. *All suspect COVID-19 cases should be notified to Community and Public Health without delay and advised to self-isolate until test results are available.*

Category two travellers do not have to routinely self-isolate unless they have symptoms and meet the clinical criteria.

Countries or areas of concern (as at 27 February 2020)**Category one:** Mainland China

People who have travelled from or via from countries in category one in the last 14 days are required to self-isolate for 14 days and contact Healthline after they have left the countries listed.

Category two: Hong Kong, Iran, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Singapore and Thailand.

People who have travelled from or via countries listed in category two who develop symptoms of fever, cough or shortness of breath should seek medical advice by first phoning Healthline's dedicated COVID-19 number 0800 358 5453 or contacting their GP (phoning ahead of their visit).

Yours sincerely

Dr Ramon Pink
Medical Officer of Health