

## **COVID-19 FACTS**

**COVID-19**: an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus. Most people infected will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment.

Some very basic facts about COVID-19 that are sometimes mistaken:

- **Where and when was the first case of coronavirus reported?**
  - On 31 December 2019, in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China, the case was reported to WHO
  
- **When were the first cases of the coronavirus disease reported in the United States?**
  - The first cases in the United States were reported in January 2020
  
- **Does heat prevent COVID-19?**
  - Exposing yourself to the sun or high temperatures, does not protect you from COVID-19
  - Climate change will not worsen COVID-19
  
- **When was the coronavirus disease declared a global health emergency?**
  - On 30 January 2020, the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak of COVID-19 to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern and issued a set of Temporary Recommendations
  
- **Can you still get COVID-19 after vaccine?**
  - It typically takes a few weeks after vaccination for the body to build protection (immunity) against the virus that causes COVID-19. It is possible a person to get COVID-19 just after vaccination. This is because the vaccine has not had enough time to provide protection

- Can COVID-19 spread through food?

- COVID-19 cannot be spread through contact with food or food packaging

- What is the meaning of COVID-19?

- “CO” stands for corona, “VI” for virus, and “D” for disease

- What are the similarities and differences between tuberculosis and COVID-19?

- They are both diseases that attack the lungs
- They have similar symptoms
- TB has a longer incubation period (the time from infection to appearance of symptoms) with a slower onset of disease

- What is the difference between the coronavirus and the influenza virus?

- The speed of transmission (Influenza virus has a shorter incubation period) because the Influenza virus can spread faster

Sources: <https://www.who.int/> World Health Organization (WHO)

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