Information for healthcare providers:

Health care providers who are caring for individuals with fever and respiratory symptoms should obtain a detailed travel history. Symptomatic patients who traveled to Wuhan or other affected areas in China on or after Dec. 1, 2019 and had onset of illness within two weeks of leaving should be considered as being infected with 2019-nCoV.

Providers should notify both infection prevention and control personnel at their health care facility and local or state public health authorities immediately, and follow CDC’s interim guidance on handling suspected 2019 nCoV cases. CDC has also issued interim recommendations for infection prevention and control.

At this time, all diagnostic testing can be conducted only at CDC headquarters in Atlanta. CDC’s Emergency Operations Center will assist local and state health authorities to collect, store and ship specimens appropriately to CDC headquarters in Atlanta. CDC is working on developing diagnostic testing capabilities that can be done closer to where patients are being treated.