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Description automatically generatedThe following ‘ADVISORY pertains to all SECURITY and FirstResponder personnel regarding the CORONAVIRUS or 2019-nCoV.**

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Description automatically generatedInformation provided is from the CDC and the National Health Commission of China.** The purpose for this advisory is to disseminate to all public first responders and private security and health related professionals, the most up-to-date information on the spread of the virus and the precautions you should take during your daily working assignments in the general public. SCI is not providing medical care parameters but provides this advice to others for the sole purpose of educating and encouraging additional communication with your medical professional. Additional information is available for those coming in contact with Coronavirus patients or in high-risk environments such as emergency rooms. Those persons should contact their infectious disease control office.

The National Health Commission said 121 more people had died and there were 5,090 new confirmed cases. The illness, officially known as COVID-19, has killed nearly 1,400 people worldwide and sickened more than 64,000 others. The vast majority of the cases are in mainland China, where the virus first began in the Hubei province. (There are now 63,851 confirmed cases in mainland China, of which 1,380 have died.)

The number of reported cases has been rising more quickly after Hubei, the hardest-hit province, changed its method of counting them Thursday. There have been 15 confirmed cases of the novel virus in the U.S., the most recent of which was reported in Texas on Thursday.

Security professionals and other responders who are not specifically tasked to treat or transport those showing symptoms of COVID-19 should:

* **AVOID CLOSE CONTACT**

1Close contact is defined as:

a) being within approximately 6 feet (2 meters), or within the room or care area, of a 2019-nCoV case for a prolonged period of time while not wearing recommended personal protective equipment or PPE (e.g., gowns, gloves, NIOSH-certified disposable N95 respirator, eye protection); close contact can include caring for, living with, visiting, or sharing a health care waiting area or room with a 2019-nCoV case  
– or –  
b) having direct contact with infectious secretions of a 2019-nCoV case (e.g., being coughed on) while not wearing recommended personal protective equipment.  
2Fever may be subjective or confirmed

* **SYMPTOMS**

Be alert for symptoms among those with whom you are in regular contact, even if it is not what would be defined as ‘close contact’.

According to the CDC: For confirmed 2019-nCoV infections, reported illnesses have ranged from people with mild symptoms to people being severely ill and dying.

**Symptoms can include:**

* **Fever**
* **Cough**
* **Shortness of breath**

CDC believes at this time that symptoms of 2019-nCoV may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 after exposure. This is based on what has been seen previously as the incubation period of [MERS](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/mers/index.html) viruses.

The latest situation summary updates are available on CDC’s web page [2019 Novel Coronavirus.](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html)