

Suspected case of COVID-19 in Del Norte County

March 5, 2020



A Del Norte County resident with symptoms of COVID-19, also known as the novel coronavirus, is being treated in a controlled environment, according to Del Norte County Public Health and Human Services. It is the first known presumptive case in Del Norte County.

This individual presented themselves to a local healthcare facility. Del Norte Public Health is working with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to coordinate sample delivery to one of the approved state laboratories. Testing is conducted by the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

Contact tracing is currently underway and exposed contacts are being quarantined at home and monitored for symptoms.

The case is presumptive only until a lab test can confirm or deny a positive result.

Officials state the immediate risk to the public in Del Norte County is relatively low.

Details about the patient will not be made public to protect patient privacy.

Local authorities remind the public to follow these simple steps to reduce or prevent the spread of any respiratory illness, including COVID-19:

- Washing hands with liquid soap and water, and rubbing for at least 20 seconds, or using an alcohol-based sanitizer of at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not immediately available;
- Covering your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or

sneezing;

- Staying home if you are sick;
- Regularly cleaning surfaces touched by many people; and
- Practicing social distancing measures, such as reducing your interaction with large groups or crowds.

Symptoms of COVID-19 range from mild to severe and include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Older residents and individuals with underlying medical conditions are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19.

If you have questions or concerns, call Del Norte County Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Branch during business hours at 707-464-0861 or after hours at 707-464-3191.