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Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC)

Emergency Teleconference

Novel Coronavirus (2019 – nCoV)

Saturday 1 February 2020 1200 – 1200AEDT

Outcomes

Members attending	
Prof Brendan Murphy	Commonwealth Chief Medical Officer
Prof Paul Kelly	A/g CMO
Ms Alison McMillan	Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer of Australia
Dr Andrew Robertson	Chief Health Officer, Western Australia
A/Prof Nicola Spurrier	Chief Health Officer, South Australia
Dr Brett Sutton	Chief Health Officer, Victoria
Dr Kerry Chant	Chief Health Officer, New South Wales
Dr Jeremy McAnulty	
Dr Jeannette Young	Chief Health Officer, Queensland
Dr Mark Veitch	Chief Health Officer, Tasmania
Dr Hugh Heggie	Chief Health Officer, Northern Territory
Dr Kerryn Coleman	Chief Health Officer, Australian Capital Territory
A/Prof Dianne Stephens	Deputy Chief Health Officer, Northern Territory Medical Director, NCCTRC.
Caroline McElnay	Director Public Health, New Zealand.
Dr Jenny Firman	Chief Medical Officer, DVA
Mr Rob Cameron	Director General, EMA
R/Adm Sharkey	
Invited Experts	
Dr Sonya Bennett	Chair, Communicable Disease Network Australia
Dr Ben Howden	Chair, Public Health Laboratories Network
Dr Mike Catton	VIDRL
Prof Jodie McVernon	University of Melbourne
Prof James McCaw	University of Melbourne
Professor Alan Cheng	Director, Infection, Prevention and Healthcare Epidemiology Unit, Alfred Health
Professor Lyn Gilbert	Director, Infection Prevention and Control, Institute of Clinical Pathology, University of Sydney
Department of Health	
Ms Celia Street	First Assistant Secretary, Office of Health Protection
Ms Rhonda Owen	Assistant Secretary, Health Emergency Management Branch
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Prof Allison McMillan	FAS, Chief Nurse and Midwifery
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Prof Murphy opened the meeting, noting that he needs advice of Members to AHPPC ahead of a meeting with Government to discuss increasing response measures to the Coronavirus.

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He felt some feedback from today's CDNA meeting would assist Members' discussion and decision making.

Dr Bennett provided feedback from today's CDNA meeting noting the updates on developments to the epidemiology of 2019-nCoV overnight, including the potential need to expand the case definition beyond Hubei Province, to the whole of mainland China.

CDNA recommend the case definition be expanded to Mainland China for 2019-nCoV and to recommend changing the case definition to acute respiratory infection with or without fever.

Members discussed the implications of the changes, including to the tourism and education sectors. They also noted the resulting implications for public health monitoring.

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Members agreed to a Statement suggested by the CMO. This statement was circulated to Members following the meeting for further comment. Following minor edits this was endorsed by all jurisdictions by email.

The statement to be presented to Government is:

AHPPC, on the advice of CDNA, considered the changes in epidemiology of coronavirus in China. AHPPC noted the increasing (but still relatively small) number of cases in other provinces outside Hubei province and the now resulting increased risk from travellers from all of mainland China.

AHPPC agreed on the following:

- To expand the case definition from 1 February 2020 to apply to mainland China;
- Recommend to DFAT to now increase travel advisory to level 4 – do not travel to all of mainland China;
- As of today, all travellers arriving out of mainland China (not just Hubei province) to self-isolate for a period of 14 days from the time they leave mainland China. For example, if a traveller left mainland China on 26 January and arrived in Australia on 2 February, that person would be required to self-isolate until 9 February (that is, for 7 days); and
- Notes that additional border measures may be required.

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Meeting closed 1310

The next meeting will be held on Sunday 2 February 2020 at 1400.

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