

Safe working on construction sites during COVID-19 outbreak

We are continuing with government advice and isolating as much as we can. However, construction sites still remain open so it is paramount that we operate in such a way as to protect the workforce.

It is important that we all adhere to government advice on combatting the spread of the virus. and should observe safe working procedures set out in the official guidance.

All sites should have safe operating procedures in place already, if not, it may be prudent to inform the relevant site managers of your concerns.

All black hats to monitor safe working practices. If you are concerned that your site is not operating safely contact head office immediately.

Travelling to sites:

- a) Avoid travelling by public transport.
- b) Try to use your own car and travel alone.
- c) Use other means such as cycling.

Site Access:

- a) Site visits should be stopped with immediate effect to all non-essential visitors.
- b) Ensure that the bio-metric entrance systems are kept clean. This means using a surface cleanser or anti-bacterial wipe after each person has used it.
- c) The steel turnstiles should be cleaned regularly also.
- d) Site inductions should be held adhering to the 2-metre guidance between persons.
- e) Avoid physical contact at all times. Do not shake hands or share tools without gloves on.

Social Distancing:

- a) Avoid close-working and any physical contact.
- b) Do not share hoists, try to use a one-way staircase system if possible.
- c) Keep a minimum 2-metre distance between each other
- d) Plan all work to minimise contact between others.
- e) Do not share tools, PPE or phones without cleansing.
- f) Try to hold meetings by phone. Conference calls are a way of holding safe meetings.
- g) Skype is another way this could be done.
- h) Staggered break times to reduce overcrowding.

Cleaning:

- a) Increase cleaning procedures everywhere.
- b) Taps and washing facilities
- c) Toilet flush and seats
- d) Toilet cubicles
- e) Toilet roll holders
- f) Door handles and push plates
- g) Hand rails on stairs and corridors
- h) Telephone equipment
- i) Lift and hoist controls
- j) Finger scanners and turnstiles
- k) Car doors
- l) Tool boxes
- m) Rubbish bins
- n) Post items
- o) Photocopiers
- p) Computer keyboards and monitors
- q) Desks, chairs and tables
- r) Stationery items
- s) Cutlery items

Personal Hygiene

- a) Wash your hands regularly for 20-30 seconds at a time.
- b) Use hand sanitisers when out and about.
- c) Keep clean shaven
- d) Keep finger nails short and clean
- e) Wash PPE regularly
- f) Keep hair clean

Self-isolating:

- a) Self-isolate if you have been exposed to someone with the virus.
- b) Follow the official guidance on self-isolation
- c) Stay at home for 7 days minimum
- d) If you have a temperature or develop symptoms self-isolate.
- e) Work from home if you possibly can

COVID-19 TOOLBOX TALK

Induction:

COVID-19 is a new illness that affects your lungs and airways. It is called Coronavirus.

Briefing:

How to avoid catching or spreading Coronavirus:

Hygiene:

1. Please wash your hands regularly for 20-30 seconds at a time
2. Use anti-bacterial wipes and sprays on door handles, toilet flushes and other frequently touched objects and surfaces.
3. Do not place the foil top back on the milk bottle after you have removed it. Place it in the bin after you have handled it.
4. Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.
5. Put used tissues in the bin and wash your hands afterwards.
6. Use hand sanitizers after you have touched items that have been used by others.

Social Distancing:

- 1 Try to hold meetings by phone. Conference calls are a way of holding a meeting without the need to actually meet.
- 2 Using Skype is another way this could be done.
- 3 Avoid using public transport whenever possible. This will reduce exposure to others who may have the virus.
- 4 Try to avoid physical contact with others. Avoid shaking hands.
- 5 You may need to work from home if you possibly can.
- 6 Avoid travelling overseas until the risk of infection subsides.

Symptoms:

- A high temperature. This means hot to touch on your chest or back. You do not need to take your temperature.
- A new and continuous cough
- Difficulty in breathing.

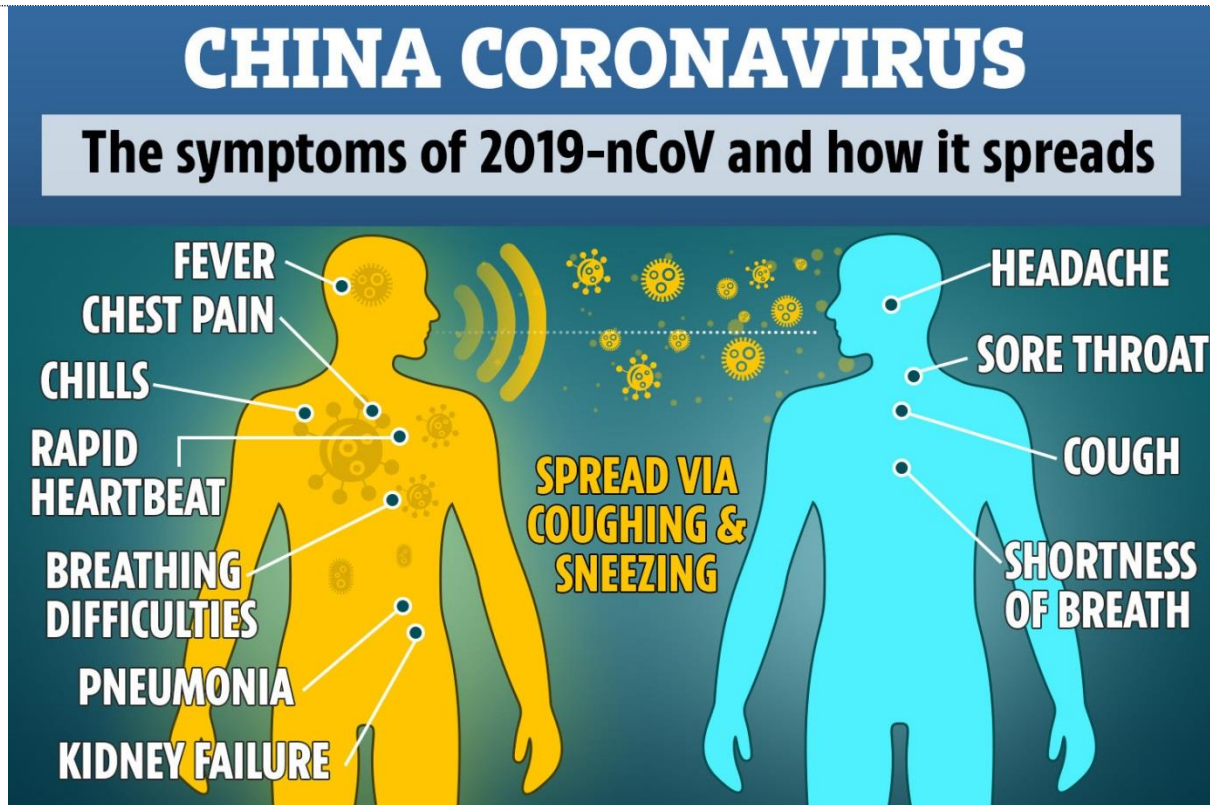
If you think you may have caught the virus do not go to your GP or hospital.

Use the NHS 111 Coronavirus service to find out what to do next.

There is currently no specific treatment for coronavirus, antibiotics do not work against viruses.

The more mature staff or staff that have underlying health concerns are particularly at risk.

Follow the government advice at www.gov.uk



Notes:



Discussion point

Have you any concerns regarding the Coronavirus outbreak?

