The World Health Organisation (WHO) has declared the coronavirus epidemic in China with Wuhan as the epicentre of the outbreak, a public health emergency of international concern on Thursday, 30 January 2020.

Experts say that the outbreak can last over a few months at least. Although the number of confirmed cases in Singapore have surpassed 10, there is currently no widespread local community transmission.

In response to the outbreak, Sree Narayana Mission (Singapore) is stepping up on its measures and is closely following the health advisories issued by the Ministry of Health (MOH), the Agency for Integrated Care (AIC) and the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MFS).

An Ops team was formed comprising key staff members, 2 residents and a volunteer, to ensure that these advisories are adhered to across all SNM (Singapore)’s facilities.

To support these efforts, a mission statement has been promulgated by the CEO:

Sree Narayana Mission (Singapore) will proactively and swiftly implement MOH/AIC directives to prevent, mitigate and manage the spread of the 2019nCoV virus (Wuhan) across SNM (Singapore)’s facilities, programmes and services as to ensure the wellbeing of residents, clients, beneficiaries and staff.

The following precautionary measures have been implemented across the Mission since mid January:

- **Temperature Screen:** All visitors and staff are expected to undergo a temperature screening with immediate effect.
- **Travel Declaration:** All visitors have to complete a travel declaration form for record purposes. Visitors who have been to China within the last 14 days are to inform our staff immediately. In addition, the Mission is also closely monitoring the travel movements of all staff as a prudential measure.
- **Increased Frequency in Cleaning:** The Mission has also stepped up on cleaning efforts to keep the premises safe and clean.
- **Temporary Suspension of Volunteer-Driven Events and Activities:** The Mission has placed a temporary suspension on all events and programmes involving residents, volunteers, clients and beneficiaries until further notice. An Annual Chinese New Year Dinner, which was planned on 29 January 2020 at the Sree Narayana Mission Nursing Home, was cancelled as a precautionary measure to prevent the risk of the virus transmission within the home.

As the situation continues to evolve, we strongly urge all members to defer non-essential travel to mainland China and adopt good personal hygiene practices.

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Wuhan Coronavirus (2019nCoV) – SNM (Singapore) Takes Prudential Measures

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SNM (Singapore) is fully confident that the measures introduced to date (and any future measures) by MOH/AIC and the inter-ministerial task force will be effective in successfully overcoming this situation provided Community partner organisations and individuals in the community work hand in hand with the authorities.

- Mr S. Devendran, CEO

(Quote from Tamil Murasu, 30 January 2020)
These are some useful tips from the Ministry of Health to keep safe!

**DEFER** non-essential travel to mainland China due to evolving Wuhan virus situation
If you are travelling overseas, DON’T

- Go near live animals, including poultry & birds
- Eat raw and undercooked meats
- Be in crowded places and around people who are unwell

DO
- Wash hands frequently with soap
- Wear a mask if you have a cough or runny nose
- Cover your mouth with a tissue paper when coughing or sneezing
- See a doctor if you feel unwell

Upon return to Singapore, monitor your health closely for 2 weeks and see a doctor if unwell.

Check [www.moh.gov.sg](http://www.moh.gov.sg) for the latest updates.

Subscribe to [https://go.gov.sg/whatsapp](https://go.gov.sg/whatsapp) and receive the latest information about Factually (clarifications about Govt-related fake news), and important Government updates!

Updated: 27 Jan 2020

Get the latest on the Wuhan coronavirus and other important Government information by signing up the Gov.sg WhatsApp channel (www.go.gov.sg/whatsapp), or at the MOH website (www.moh.gov.sg)

Information is accurate at time of print.

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