

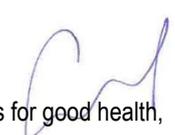
Coronavirus safety guidelines for BGU staff, Students and guestsFebruary 10th 2020

On January 30th 2020 the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the Coronavirus outbreak to be a public health emergency of international concern. Nevertheless, the WHO Emergency Committee believes that it is still possible to interrupt virus spread, provided that countries put in place strong measures to detect disease early, isolate and treat cases, trace contacts, and promote social distancing measures. **It is our responsibility to follow these measures to keep our community healthy and safe.**

Below are our guidelines, based on the directives of the [Israeli Ministry of Health](#) and the [WHO](#), effective immediately, and until further notice.

1. Basic protective measures to be taken include:
 - a. Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand rub.
 - b. When coughing and sneezing, cover mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue. Discard tissue immediately and wash hands with soap.
 - c. Maintain at least 1 metre distance between yourself and other people, particularly those who are coughing, sneezing and have a fever.
 - d. Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth.
2. If possible, avoid travel to China, Hong-Kong, Maccau, Singapore, S. Korea Taiwan and Thailand.
3. According to [directives issued by the Israeli Ministry of Health](#), anyone returning from China (and only China), or travelling with people who returned from China (and only China), is requested to:
 - a. Stay in isolation outside the University premises and all its facilities, for 14 days. Avoid public transportation and public spaces. Entry into the university's premises and facilities is possible after the isolation period, provided that no symptoms of the disease appear in any form or intensity in the person or people that s/he has been in contact with.
 - b. Absence from work during the quarantine period for people returning from China (and only China) ,shall be considered an absence due to illness, on condition that proof is submitted to confirm the date of departure from China. There is no need to ask your family physician to issue a further statement of illness for this absence.
 - c. If one of the following symptoms appears: fever above 38 degrees Celsius, cough, difficulty breathing or any other respiratory symptom, please follow step 5 below.
4. According to [directives issued by the Israeli Ministry of Health](#), anyone returning from China, Hong-Kong, Maccau, Singapore, S. Korea Taiwan and Thailand in the past 14 days and having one of the following symptoms: fever above 38 degrees C, cough, difficulty breathing or any other respiratory symptom needs to follow step 5 below.
5. If you suspect that you have contracted the Coronavirus and wish to seek medical care, please cover your mouth and nose with a mask or cloth, avoid contact with other people, avoid travel on public transport, call the clinic/ER before going and follow protective measures and [guidelines issued by the Israel Ministry of Health](#). Updated international information is available on the [WHO website](#).

BGU management continues to follow the situation and will update with any change to instructions. In case you have questions, wish to consult or offer advice, please contact the PREPARED center for emergency response research at prepared@bgu.ac.il . For those curious and interested, we recommend following the Johns Hopkins Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) website reports on [modeling the spreading risk](#) and [interactive dashboard](#).



With best wishes for good health,
Prof. Limor Aharonson-Daniel,
Vice President for Global Engagement