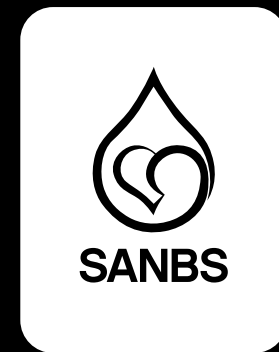


Coronavirus Outbreak Precautionary Measures for Blood Donation

Update (19/03/2020)



Coronavirus outbreak

219 387
confirmed
cases

The World Health Organization and affiliated organisations have reported a novel Coronavirus outbreak in Wuhan China. To date, more than **200 000 cases** have been confirmed. At least **116 cases** have been confirmed in South Africa at present.

Precautionary deferral:

As a precautionary measure and to ensure the safety of blood and blood products.

- Persons who have traveled to high risk countries will be deferred for **21 days**;
- Persons confirmed with Coronavirus infection will be deferred for **28 days** from date of complete clearance of symptoms and;
- People who have been in close contact with confirmed or probable Coronavirus cases will be deferred for **21 days** from the last date of contact.

116
confirmed
cases in
SA



Keep yourself safe:



The situation with the outbreak is constantly changing and we encourage you to keep yourselves informed.

- Make sure you, and the people around you, follow good respiratory hygiene.
- Risk of serious illness increases with age. People over 60 seem to be more vulnerable than those under 60.
- People with weakened immune systems and conditions such as diabetes, heart and lung disease are also more vulnerable to serious illness.
- The mortality rate suggested by The World Health Organization is 3.4%.

Ask our staff at the donation centres if you have any questions about the safety of your blood.



Clinical symptoms of Coronavirus:

Clinical symptoms include fever, cough, runny nose, sore throat and shortness of breath. Most cases are mild but severe cases have been reported.