



National Public Health Institute Of Liberia

Preventing and Controlling Public Health Threats

Office of the Acting Director General

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COVID-19 Advisory #3: Precautionary Observation of all persons arriving from countries with widespread and active human to human transmission of covid-19 : March 5, 2020

The global transmission of the COVID-19 necessitates precautionary observation (PO) by the National Public Health Institute of Liberia (NPHIL) in collaboration with the Ministry of Health. This activated COVID-19 Preparedness Plan activities began on January 25, 2020 with emphasis on the enhanced screening of all arrivals at the Robert International Airport (RIA) to reduce the likelihood of an imported case of the deadly COVID-19 from countries that are experiencing active and widespread transmission.

In consultation with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO), NPHIL and MOH have instituted the following advisory to govern those who will undergo PO:

1. Strongly encourage that only travelers who have critical functions in Liberia and who are travelling from countries with 200 or more cases of COVID-19 should visit Liberia at this time.
2. Any person who, within 14 days before arriving in Liberia, has resided in a country that has reported 200 or more confirmed cases will have to undergo PO under either of the following conditions:
 - A. Travelers whose embassies or missions have identified an isolated residence that is verified by the NPHIL/country health team will be taken to that identified place for the 14-day period of observation. NPHIL and the health team will monitor their temperature twice a day. Affected embassies and/or missions will provide the names of these travelers to the health team prior to their arrival in the country to ensure a smooth entry process and the visitors will be given specific instructions on self-monitoring and reporting of symptoms should they arise.
 - B. All other persons will be taken to the Star Base or other designated POC for 14 days of PO. As of March 5, 2020, these countries of interest requiring 14 days of observation are the following:
China (80,409 cases), South Korea (6,088 cases), Italy (3,858 cases), Iran (3,513 cases), France (377 cases), Germany (349 cases), Japan (317 cases), and Spain (200 cases).
 - C.
3. Visitors who have been in countries with 50 to 200 confirmed cases (with infections that are widespread) in the last 14 days, will be evaluated based on the specific geographical areas they visited. PO will be instituted if they are from a region or state of the country with 100 or more confirmed cases. These countries now include USA (129 cases), Singapore (117 cases), United Kingdom (115 cases), Hong Kong (104 cases), Netherlands (82 cases), Switzerland (58 cases), Kuwait (56 cases), Australia (52 cases) and Malaysia (50 cases).
4. Visitors from countries with 15 to 50 cases will be documented and asked to do self-monitoring and report immediately to NPHIL's emergency phone number (4455), if they experience any one of these symptoms: fever, cough and respiratory distress.

We have also instituted these additional measures:

All persons who arrive with a laissez-passer (the exemptions are the UN and EU laissez-passer) will be immediately taken to the POC for secondary screening. If there is suspicion of illegal attempts to circumvent the process, such a visitor will be kept in the POC for 14 days.

Signed 

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Approved 

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