

**January 30, 2020**

**Subject: Guidance for those who have visited China in the past 14 days - Coronavirus**

The Ministry of Health instructs anyone who has been to China in the last 14 days, including short stays, not to go out into public spaces including educational facilities, places of work, public transportation, shopping and entertainment venues, hospitals and clinics for a period of 14 days from the last time they were in China. (hereafter "containment period")

For those who visited China, **in the case of the appearance of a fever, cough or shortness of breath**, please call a health care provider, or the emergency room, in advance of arrival. In other medical conditions requiring treatment, the caregiver must be informed in advance of the arrival of a patient of the fact of the recent visit to China. Care should be taken to cover the nose and mouth of the patient with a surgical mask or other available cloth. In traveling to a treatment center avoid the use of public transportation.

These instructions are issued due to the spread of the new Chinese Coronavirus in China and to additional countries outside of China and in order to prevent its spread to Israel.

Absence from work during the containment period will be considered absenteeism due to illness as provided for in the Ministry of Health's order, subject to the presentation of a confirmation of the date of departure from China. **Please do not approach family physicians for a note of sick leave.** On the 15th day after the last stay in China and as symptoms do not develop, individuals may return to work and normal activities.

Sincerely,

Moshe Bar Siman Tov  
Director General, Ministry of Health, Israel