

SYNOPSIS

02/03/2020

Review of “Updated understanding of the outbreak of 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in Wuhan, China”

Article citation: Wang W, Tang J, Wei F. Updated understanding of the outbreak of 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in Wuhan, China. *J Med Virol*. 2020 Jan 29 [Epub ahead of print]. Available from: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/jmv.25689>

One-Minute Summary

- Based on a comprehensive search from Chinese and worldwide official websites and announcements, the authors summarized the epidemiology of the outbreak in **China as of January 25, 2020**, reporting **1,975 confirmed cases and 56 deaths (2.84% case fatality)**.
- The authors reported on an early cohort of **17 fatal cases** of 2019-nCoV infection (reported up to January 22, 2020). There were **13 male and 4 female patients** with a **median age of 75 years old (range = 48–89 years of age)**. **Eleven of the fatal cases (64.7%) had co-morbidities**.
- The most common symptom reported in these 17 fatalities was **fever (64.7%)**, followed by **cough (52.9%)**.
- The **median time from first symptom onset to death was 14 days (range = 6–41 days)**. The time from symptom onset to death was lower in those **≥ 70 years of age (median = 11.5 days, range = 6–19 days)** compared to those **< 70 years of age (median = 20 days, range = 10–41 days) (P = 0.033)**.

Additional Information

- Authors performed a comprehensive search from Chinese and worldwide official websites and announcements (from December 1, 2019 through 9:30 am on January 26, 2020 (Beijing time)).
- For context, the **case fatality rate** is estimated to be **9.6% for SARS-CoV** and **34.4% for MERS-CoV**.

PHO Reviewer’s Comments

The information for this article is derived from website postings, and therefore may be missing information that has not been made publicly available. In addition, the accuracy of the information is difficult to determine.

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Citation

Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Review of “Updated understanding of the outbreak of 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in Wuhan, China”. Toronto, ON: Queen’s Printer for Ontario; 2020.

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