COVID-19

What is it?
• A new respiratory virus first identified in Wuhan, China
• It has the potential to cause severe illness and pneumonia in some people

How is it spread?
Through the air by coughing and sneezing
Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands
Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes

Who is at risk?
Travelers to and from certain areas are at increased risk as are the close contacts of those who are ill
65 years and older and those with underlying health conditions

What are the symptoms?
Illnesses can be mild, or in some cases be severe enough to require hospitalization. Symptoms of this respiratory illness primarily include:
Fever
Cough
Shortness of Breath

How is it prevented?
Similar to prevention of other respiratory illnesses, including the flu:
• Wash hands often
• Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
• Avoid contact with sick people
• Stay home while you are sick; avoid others
• Cover mouth/nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing

Visit scdhec.gov/COVID19 for more information.