



**Alameda County Health Care Services Agency
Public Health Department**

Colleen Chawla, Director
Kimi Watkins-Tartt, Director
Erica Pan, MD, Interim Health Officer

Office of the Director

**1000 Broadway, Suite 500
Oakland, CA 94607**

**Neetu Balram
Public Information Officer
510-267-2801**

For Immediate Release

March 6, 2020

CONTACT: Neetu Balram, Public Information Manager

PHONE: 510-267-8001

EMAIL: Neetu.Balram2@acgov.org

Alameda County Public Health Department Confirms Second Positive Case of COVID-19

ALAMEDA COUNTY – Alameda County Public Health Department reported a second case of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

The individual was a passenger of the Grand Princess cruise ship from February 11-21. Alameda County residents who were aboard the Grand Princess Cruise and have been symptomatic with fever, new cough or difficulty breathing since the cruise should be tested for COVID-19 by their healthcare provider.

The case is an older adult, who has underlying medical conditions. The patient is currently hospitalized with appropriate infection control precautions, and their family members are in quarantine.

While this individual was exposed outside of Alameda County, there is increasing evidence of community transmission in the Bay Area, and we are prepared for and expect that we will see more cases in Alameda County in the coming days.

“While over 80 percent of people with COVID-19 have mild disease, we can and should prepare for this new virus to gain a foothold in our county, and we should work together to slow the spread of disease and protect our most vulnerable populations.” said Dr. Erica Pan, Health Officer, Alameda County Public Health Department. *“While information continues to evolve, persons who are at higher risk for severe disease include the elderly and those with underlying medical conditions should consider avoiding mass gatherings.”*

Alameda County Public Health Department is monitoring this new case’s condition as well as their contacts for symptoms. Patients with confirmed COVID-19 infection have experienced mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms such as fever, cough, and shortness of breath.

Alameda County residents should take these precautions to stop the spread of germs and prevent respiratory illnesses:

- Practice good personal hygiene habits;
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing;
- Refrain from touching your eyes, nose and mouth;
- Stay home when you are sick and away from others in your home;
- Clean frequently touched surfaces and objects using normal household cleansers;
- Plan for the possibility of school dismissals, cancellations of mass gatherings, and other ways to reduce contact between persons if recommended by public health officials as this evolves;
- Get a flu shot to protect yourself and others from the flu, which has similar symptoms to COVID-19.

At this time, Alameda County public health officials are not generally recommending the cancellation of mass gatherings or school dismissals. However, ACPHD has recommended that events that involve vulnerable populations such as the elderly and those with underlying chronic medical conditions should be carefully reconsidered at this time, and advises everyone review the [CDC's recommendations on mass gatherings](#).

For more information about COVID-19, visit the following:

- CDC website: www.cdc.gov/COVID19
- CDPH website: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/ncov2019.aspx>
- Alameda County Public Health Department website: <http://acphd.org/2019-ncov.aspx>; for general inquiries, please email ncov@acgov.org or call (510) 268-2101

Alameda County will not be sharing any additional information about this case.