



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences

Melbourne Veterinary School

Staff Briefing March 2020

John Fazakerley, Dean





Analysis of COVID-19 in Hubai Province China

Median patient age – 59 years

Case : Fatality Rate

Based on a diagnosis of pneumonia 2%

Based on laboratory diagnosis 1.4%

Not clear the number of asymptomatic infections – if high, could be considerably less than 1%

Severe seasonal flu ~0.1% / SARS ~10% / MERS >30%

$R_0 = 2.2$ (on average on infected individual will infect 2.2 others).

Interval between onset and hospitalisation: generally, 9 to 12 days

Vaccine – not for many months

Anti-virals – maybe (lopinavir, interferon, remdesivir)





Federal & State Responses

University Response

Incident Management / Executive Liaison

<https://www.unimelb.edu.au/coronavirus>

Travel – international / domestic Self-isolation

Face to face teaching

Practical classes

Placements / EMS

Research

Seminars

Workshops

Working from home

<https://policy.unimelb.edu.au/MPF1155>

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



FEVER



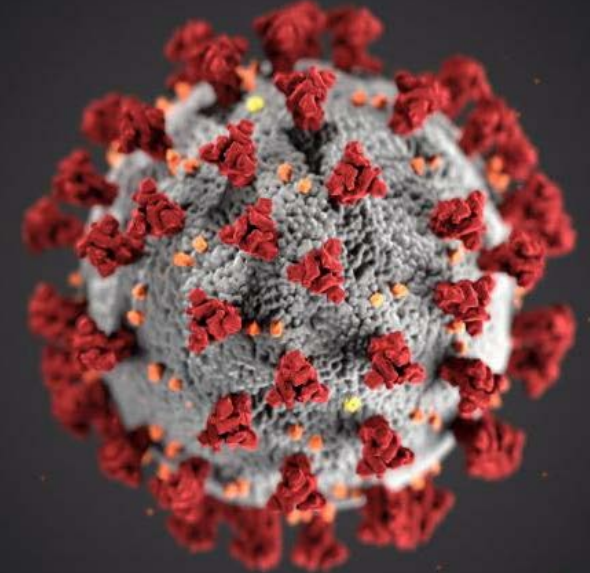
COUGH



SHORTNESS OF BREATH



SORE THROAT



Protect yourself and your family

Wash your hands regularly



1 Wet your hands.

Put soap on your hands.



2



3 Rub the soap over all parts of your hands for at least 20 seconds.

Rinse your hands under running water.



4



5 Dry your hands thoroughly with disposable paper towel or hand dryer.

Stay germ free and healthy

Protect yourself and your family

Cover your cough and sneeze



1

COVER your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.

Put your used tissue in the rubbish **BIN**.

2



3

If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, **NOT YOUR HANDS**.

WASH your hands with soap and running water. Dry your hands thoroughly with a disposable paper towel or hand dryer.

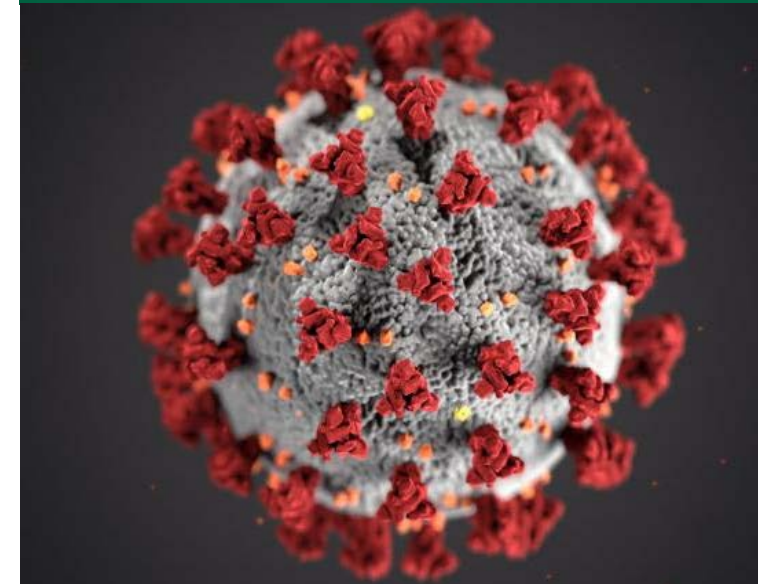
4



Stay germ free and healthy

Research

- What can you do to implement social distancing? Stagger work times, increase distances between people, work from home?
- What supplies are critical and how can you protect against a shortage of materials?
- What would you do if the entire campus were closed?
- How would you shut down equipment and experiments and how long would it take?
- Are there remote monitoring devices or back-up power supplies that could maintain critical equipment?



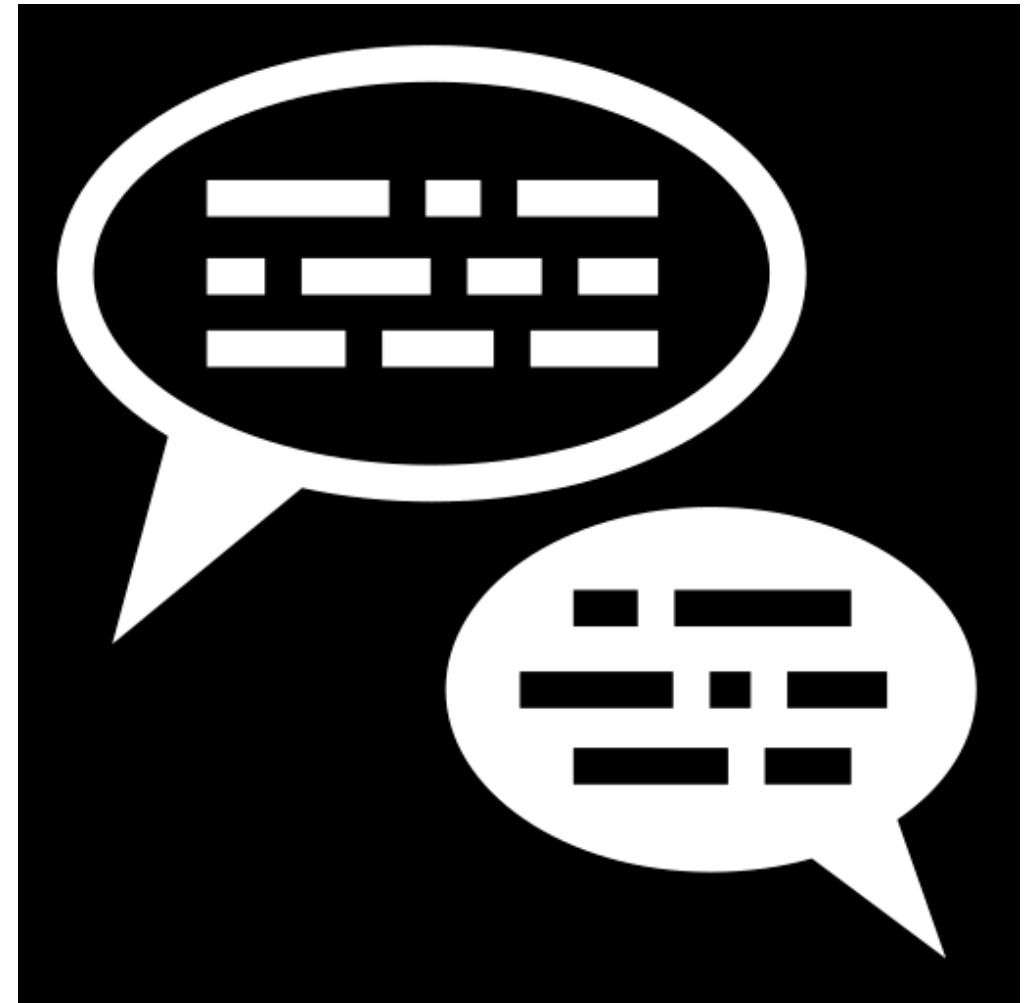


The Faculty is 5 years old

Dean & Provost Review

External Consultant - Jeff Jarratt
Individual interviews (30 minutes)
Anonymous responses
Compiled report

Interviews in December
Draft report February





THE UNIVERSITY OF
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Melbourne Veterinary School

School Meeting 17th March 2020
Head of School Briefing





MVS coronavirus response

During today, as part of ongoing Business Continuity Planning, we have been meeting with key MVS and Faculty staff, to discuss:

- **Clinic Operations and DVM4 clinical rotations, including those at distributed practices and GVEH**
- **Online lectures and tutorials**
- **Practical teaching**
- **Assessment and academic progression, including RHD students**
- **Accreditation requirements**
- **Research and Animal Ethics implications**
- **Information and Support for teaching staff**



MVS coronavirus response

- **ALL** face-to-face lectures, tutorials and practical sessions (including animal handling practicals) and all DVM4 rotations and placements **will be suspended from close of business today (Tuesday March 17)** until further notice.
- Lectures and tutorials will be delivered on line.
- We will provide information over the coming days specific to each year group to enable you to provide the best possible student experience.
- All EMS placements will be suspended from close of business today (Tuesday March 17)



MVS coronavirus response

- We will be **creating a new timetable** for DVM 1-3, and other programs if necessary, that front-loads lectures and tutorials in the first half of the semester and back-loads practical sessions into the second half of the semester or into semester 2.
- Other strategies are also being explored that may enable us to deliver content without delaying student progression.



U-Vet

- From **Monday 23rd March** U-Vet will operate on an emergency-only basis, initially using the Christmas period operating model. We will work with hospital leaders to provide further details taking into consideration:
 - Communications to GP clients, referring vets and other stakeholders
 - Policies for client and staff biosecurity
 - Residency training programs
 - Policies for stray animals
 - Supplies
- **More stringent biosecurity measures** will come into force in U-Vet to reduce the potential of transmission from clients to hospital staff and students. Hospital leaders will be communicating with hospital staff directly regarding this matter.



MVS Coronavirus response

- **All student and academic seminars** are to be postponed/cancelled until further notice.
- The School/Faculty will **support academic and professional staff working remotely where possible and only with supervisor permission**. Please refer to University guidelines at <https://staff.unimelb.edu.au/health-safety-wellbeing/coronavirus/Reference-Guide-for-Leave-and-Working-Arrangements-Novel-Coronavirus.pdf#page=1>



MVS Coronavirus response

Staff working arrangements

- In line with these changes, please discuss the current priorities with your line manager to ensure your focus is on the required activities.

Casual work: Where possible, we will endeavour to maintain the current commitments to casual staff. This may be achieved by redirecting staff to work on tasks that are different from those planned.

- Further information about these workforce arrangements, self-isolation, illness, and provision for families will be progressively updated on [Staff Hub](#).



MVS Coronavirus response

All students will be informed at COB today

Year-specific information and details to follow from tomorrow

Daily 9am meetings MVS Senior coronavirus team

AM, JS, SB, JC, NC, CS

Flow and delegation of work to Year co-ordinators and relevant working groups

Daily staff updates

This is an unprecedented and rapidly evolving situation so please bear with us.

I am communicating regularly with the national and international veterinary school community and our accrediting bodies as we navigate through this.



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Thank you

QUESTIONS

