Subject: Updated coronavirus travel guidance

Date: Friday, March 6, 2020 at 9:08:09 AM Eastern Standard Time

From: Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D., President

## March 5, 2020

**TO:** MSU faculty, staff and students

**FROM:** MSU President Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D. Dr. David Weismantel, University Physician

## Dear campus community:

While it still remains that there are zero confirmed cases of the new coronavirus (COVID-19) in Michigan and no suspected cases on campus, it's important you stay informed. To that end, I want to take a moment to update you on the latest guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as it relates to international travel.

Late Wednesday, the CDC issued guidance recommending anyone who has traveled to one of the four countries under a Warning Level 3 Health Notice (China, Iran, Italy and South Korea) to practice social distancing for 14 days after returning to the U.S.

For those who are returning or have already returned from travel in these areas, there are a few steps the CDC says you should take to monitor your health and practice social distancing:

- Take your temperature with a thermometer two times a day and monitor for fever. Also watch for a cough or trouble breathing.
- 2. Stay home and avoid contact with others. Do not go to work or school for this 14-day period. Discuss your work situation with your employer before returning to work.
- 3. Do not take public transportation, taxis or ride-shares during this time.
- 4. Avoid crowded places (such as shopping centers and movie theaters), and limit your activities in public.
- 5. Keep your distance from others (about 6 feet or 2 meters).

And if you have traveled to any of these affected areas during the past 14 days and feel sick with a fever (100.4°F/38°C or higher) or cough or have trouble breathing:

- Seek medical care. Call ahead before you go to a medical office or emergency room.
- Tell your doctor or provider about your recent travel and your symptoms.
- Avoid contact with others.

To ensure a seamless educational experience for all Spartans, MSU is prepared to support any student following CDC guidelines for social distancing and self-monitoring with the university's well-established medical accommodation policies to ensure medical and academic needs of all students are met. Students can request these supports by contacting their academic advisors.

Faculty and staff who have traveled to these affected areas and are following CDC guidelines should work with their supervisor for medical accommodations, including working remotely. Additionally, Residential and Hospitality Services will make room and board accommodations available for students,

faculty or staff who have traveled to the affected areas and need separate housing to complete their self-isolation. Those needing special accommodations should contact MSU Live On at 517-884-1783.

We are taking this outbreak seriously and are working hard to make certain you have the latest information as it becomes available. But I encourage you to keep yourself informed by also checking our website daily – <a href="https://www.msu.edu/coronavirus">www.msu.edu/coronavirus</a>. I also urge you to keep yourself safe by doing the following:

- Wash hands often with soap and water. If not available, use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid large crowds in areas where viruses are prevalent.
- Stay home while you are sick and avoid close contact with others.
- Cover your mouth/nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing.
- Clean your doorknobs, light switches and commonly touched areas with disinfectant wipes frequently.

Thank you.