

February 26, 2020

Update: handling of the Corona Virus

The coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is still on the rise worldwide. On Tuesday evening the Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH) announced the first case in Switzerland - in Ticino. Due to the current situation, the FH Graubünden wants to inform again about the handling of the virus.

On Tuesday evening, the first case of the corona virus was confirmed in Switzerland. The affected man from Ticino had been staying in Italy. In Italy there are now more than 300 confirmed cases. The FOPH assumes that further cases will occur in Switzerland, but also points out that the risk to the population is moderate. No special measures are currently required for schools and other educational institutions.

The emergency team of FH Graubünden is monitoring the current developments and is coordinating all information in consultation with the cantonal health authorities.

It asks all members of the FH Graubünden who have recently been in an affected area with high infection rates to contact the emergency management team immediately by e-mail notfall@fhgr.ch or by telephone (079 565 17 14). In particular, this also applies to currently cordoned-off areas such as Codogno or other affected communities in Northern Italy.

The emergency team of the FH Graubünden will examine each case individually in consultation with the cantonal health authorities and if deemed necessary, will take any appropriate measures accordingly.

The controlling of transmittable diseases is a government task. The authorities are constantly monitoring the situation and are taking the necessary measures to protect public health and safeguard the rights of those affected. These measures are taken by the competent federal and cantonal authorities on the basis of the Swiss Epidemic Law. The FOPH provides ongoing information on its website about the current situation and the appropriate measures.

The recommendations for handling the corona virus communicated by the FH Graubünden still apply (see intranet report of 6 February 2020). The FOPH recommends the following precautionary measures:

- Avoid people with an acute respiratory disease if possible
- Avoid large gatherings of people if possible.
- Use hygiene measures: wash your hands regularly with soap and water, avoid touching your mouth, nose and eyes, sneezing or coughing in the crook of your arm, or using a handkerchief.
- If symptoms of illness occur, do not go out in public and contact a doctor or medical institution immediately by telephone

In view of the seasonal flu, it is advisable to take special hygiene measures, regardless of the corona virus. Hand sanitizer dispensers are available at all locations on FH Graubünden premises. As an additional measure, it is recommended to avoid shaking hands.