Current Status:

- **Global**
  - >93,000
  - >12,000 outside of China

- **United States**
  - 124 total cases
  - 9 deaths
  - 16 states reporting cases

- **Local**
  - No cases reported in LA
What is coronavirus?

- The Novel Coronavirus 2019, also known as (2019,nCoV) is a new strain of the common cold virus.
- Coronaviruses circulate in animals and occur in humans due to spillover.
- Able to infect the lower respiratory tract
- Current testing did not detect this strain
What coronavirus is not:

"It’s my sinuses, Doctor - I wake up but I don’t smell the coffee."
COVID-19 Cases in the U.S.

- >7,000 cases
- 97 deaths
Louisiana COVID-19 cases climbing
No state in the country has identified as many cases as Louisiana so soon after their first resident tested positive. (Updated March 18, 2020 at 10 a.m.)
What if we do not flatten the curve?

- Loss of workforce
- Loss of revenue
- Time to recovery will lengthen
What if we do not flatten the curve?

- Overwhelming medical care
- Ethical decisions about scarce resources
- Increase in morbidity and mortality of employee base
Office Based Precautions

- Establish a safe culture around calling in to work sick.
- Look at work from home policies now.
- Establish a comprehensive communication plan.
- Determine cross training capability and define job sharing roles now.

*See OLOL webpage for further tips and updates*
Office Based Precautions

- Provide hand sanitizer and soap  
  - 60-95% alcohol
- Provide routine environmental cleaning.
- Provide disposable wipes  
  - Wipe commonly used surfaces often
- Don’t share towels.  
  - Office, kitchens and bathrooms
Office Based Precautions

If someone is out on quarantine and may be being tested for COVID-19, what does industry tell the remaining staff who work with these employees?
FEVER

COUGH

SHORTNESS OF BREATH
How to prevent respiratory illness

• Handwashing
  – After contact with high touch surfaces (doorknobs, keyboards, phones, stair rails)

• Keeping your hands away from your face
  – Germs are transmitted by bringing them to the eyes, nose and mouth

• Social Distancing
  – Avoid hugging and shaking hands
  – Work from home if possible
What to do once it is here

• If employees are diagnosed with COVID-19, employers should inform fellow employees of their exposure while maintaining confidentiality.
• If an employee is caring for a person with COVID-19, they should notify their supervisor and refer to the assessment tool should signs and symptoms within the employee occur.
Who is exposed?

- Healthcare personnel with Exposure in a Healthcare setting to Patients with COVID-19

  **Close Contact**
  a) being within approximately 6 feet (2 meters), of a person with COVID-19 for a prolonged period of time (such as caring for or visiting the patient; or sitting within 6 feet of the patient in a healthcare waiting area or room); or
  b) having unprotected direct contact with infectious secretions or excretions of the patient (e.g., being coughed on, touching used tissues with a bare hand).

- **Self-monitoring**
- **Active monitoring - public health**
- **Self-monitoring with delegated supervision - infection control and public health**
When can a COVID-19 patient return to work?

- At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery
  - Defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and
  - Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath)

AND

- At least 7 days have passed since symptoms first appeared
What about family members of a COVID-19 patient?

• Close contacts should monitor their health; they should call their healthcare provider right away if they develop symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 (e.g., fever, cough, shortness of breath).

• At some point, we will all contract this illness.
  – Social distancing
  – Work place hygiene
Should we get “rule out” tests?

- **No**
  - PCR based tests are not tests of cure
    - Can be falsely positive in those living in the home of a COVID patient
  - Can be falsely negative just before the person becomes symptomatic

- Screening for symptoms and encouraging people to stay at home when sick are better prevention methods
What do I do if I think I need to be tested

• Put on a mask in public
• Don’t go to work or public functions
• Stay at home while you reach your physician for further instructions
Can more than 10 people work in the same office?

• Yes.
• Develop a cleaning schedule for shared spaces.
• Encourage eating outside or at the desk.
• Do not schedule office lunches.
• Limit the number of people in the kitchen and copy area at one time with signage clearly posted.
How to access care quickly:

• Clinic Numbers and extended hours: (225)765-5500
• Telemedicine capabilities are available

OLOLRMC.com/VideoVisits

More information: OLOLRMC.com/COVID19
What can you do today?

• Talk to your team about preparation
• Handwashing
• Refrain from touching your face
• Wipe down high touch surfaces
• Social distancing
• Don’t come to work sick
QUESTIONS?