What is a Coronavirus?
Novel coronavirus COVID-19 is a virus strain that originated in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China that has spread among humans since Dec. 2019. Coronaviruses usually cause mild respiratory illnesses, such as the common cold. Some coronaviruses have caused more severe illness, such as severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS).

Who is at risk?
At this time, most people in California are not considered at risk for COVID-19 infection and do not need to seek medical evaluation for the virus.

How is the coronavirus spread?
COVID-19 primarily spreads when an infected person coughs or sneezes releasing droplets which can travel up to 6 feet. Another person can become infected if these droplets enter their mouth, nose, or eyes directly or through their contaminated hands. An infected person who coughs or sneezes into their hands and touches surfaces such as phones, tables, door handles, or toys can contaminate them.

How to prevent getting COVID-19?
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Stay home when you are sick.

Cleaning & disinfecting tips:
- Clean hard surfaces (desks, tables, countertops, sinks) and clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces (door handles, faucets, railings), bathrooms, and rooms. Use alcohol wipes to clean keyboards.
- Clean surfaces with fragrance-free soap. Thorough cleaning with soap and water will remove most microorganisms.

How do I get more information?
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [www.cdc.gov/COVID19](http://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)