

# THE SCHOOL NURSE BULLETIN

## FEBRUARY 2020

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### The Association of School Nurses of Connecticut (ASNC) School Nurse Recognitions

ASNC invites nominations for its 2019/2020, Awards:

- School Nurse of the Year;
- School Nurse Administrator of the Year;
- Peer Recognition; and
- Advocate of School Nursing.

Download, complete and email the [nomination form](#) to: ASNC Recognitions Chair, Jennifer Allis Vazquez at [jvazquez@newhavenct.gov](mailto:jvazquez@newhavenct.gov) (Subject: Recognitions)

Award nominations/self-nominations deadline: March 15, 2020. The nomination form is located on the ASNC website at <https://ctschoolnurses.nursingnetwork.com/page/76021-awards-recognition>

### Pre-K -Early Care and Education in School Settings: Considering the role of the school nurse



Registration "[here](#)"

(<https://ctnurses.org/event-3520524/Registration>)

Inn at Middletown  
70 Main St  
Middletown, CT 06457

February 26, 2020  
9 am - 4:00 pm

Nurses are strongly encouraged to attend with the Director of the Early Care and Education program in their school. Learning together deepens the understanding of each other's expertise and allows a common platform for future collaboration!

\*Discounts available for teams of 2 or more\*

## Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 2019 Novel Coronavirus, Wuhan, China

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

### The following information is from the CDC:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is closely monitoring an outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. Chinese authorities identified the new coronavirus, which has resulted in hundreds of confirmed cases in China, including cases outside Wuhan, with additional cases being identified in a growing number of countries internationally. The first case in the United States was announced on January 21, 2020. There are ongoing investigations to learn more.

#### **About 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV):**

2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is a virus (more specifically, a coronavirus) identified as the cause of an outbreak of respiratory illness first detected in Wuhan, China. Early on, many of the patients in the outbreak in Wuhan, China reportedly had some link to a large seafood and animal market, suggesting animal-to-person spread. However, a growing number of patients reportedly have not had exposure to animal markets, suggesting person-to-person spread is occurring. At this time, it's unclear how easily or sustainably this virus is spreading between people.

#### **Symptoms:**

Patients with confirmed 2019-nCoV infection have reportedly had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of: fever, cough, and shortness of breath. CDC believes at this time that symptoms of 2019-nCoV may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 after exposure. This is based on what has been seen previously as the incubation period of MERS viruses. The latest situation summary updates are available on CDC's web page 2019 Novel Coronavirus, Wuhan, China.

#### **How it Spreads:**

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that are common in many different species of animals, including camels, cattle, cats, and bats. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can infect people and then spread between people such as with MERS and SARS. Many of the patients in the pneumonia outbreak caused by 2019-nCoV in Wuhan, China had some link to a large seafood and live animal market, suggesting animal-to-person spread. However, a growing number of patients reportedly have not had exposure to animal markets, indicating person-to-person spread is occurring. When person-to-person spread has occurred with MERS and SARS, it is thought to have happened via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes, similar to how influenza and other respiratory pathogens spread. Spread of SARS and MERS between people has generally occurred between close contacts. It's important to note that how easily a virus spreads person-to-person can vary. Some viruses are highly contagious (like measles), while other viruses are less so. It's not clear yet how easily 2019-nCoV spreads from person-to-person. It's important to know this in order to better understand the risk associated with this virus.

#### **Prevention:**

There is currently no vaccine to prevent 2019-nCoV infection. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to this virus. Right now, 2019-nCoV has not been found to be spreading in the United States, so there are no additional precautions recommended for the general public to take. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including:

- 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.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

These are every day habits that can help prevent the spread of several viruses. CDC does have specific guidance for travelers.

#### **Treatment:**

There is no specific antiviral treatment recommended for 2019-nCoV infection. People infected with 2019-nCoV should receive supportive care to help relieve symptoms. For severe cases, treatment should include care to support vital organ functions. People who think they may have been exposed to 2019-nCoV should contact your healthcare provider immediately.

For additional information on how to prevent MERS-CoV from spreading to others in homes and communities, go to the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/mers/hcp/home-care-patient.html>

## 2020 School Nurse Spring Supervisor Conference

**Date:** Wednesday, May 13, 2019

**Time:** 8:30 A.M. - 2:30 P.M.

**Location:** Courtyard Marriott, Cromwell, CT

**Registration information:** Will be available in the March 2020, School Nurse Bulletin

## Ordering School Health Records for the 2020-2021 School Year

School nurse supervisors and lead school nurses, please start preparing to order health forms for your school districts. Only one order will be accepted per school district.

**When:** A survey will be sent to your email address in mid February, 2020, for you to complete.

**How to Order:** Each district must determine the number of CHR-1 (white folders) and HAR-3 (blue form) forms needed based on its student population and number of forms currently in stock. Please order sufficient numbers to share with charter, private and parochial schools served by your district **and** if asked, with health care provider offices in your community. The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) distributes CHR-1 and HAR-3 forms to **one public school location in each Town**. Private schools will need to contact the local public school nursing supervisor regarding the health forms they need for the coming school year.

### Important Information:

1. Orders for CHRs and HARs will only be accepted via the Survey. No faxes or emails will be accepted!
2. The Early Childhood Health Assessment Record is not part of the order for health forms. Schools will need to download and print this form from the School Nursing website located at [www.ct.gov/sde/schoolnurse](http://www.ct.gov/sde/schoolnurse)
3. Only **one** order per public school district will be accepted. Only school nurse supervisors or lead school nurses should order for their districts. Individual school nurses, please connect with your supervisors regarding your individual school needs.
4. Your order will be changed if you have ordered excessively for the size of your district. **Order for ONE school year only.**
5. Deadline has been extended to March 15, 2019.
6. The blue form that will be shipped is located on the CSDE school nurse web page at [www.ct.gov/sde/schoolnurse](http://www.ct.gov/sde/schoolnurse)
7. We do not distribute the yellow form/Early Childhood Health Assessment Record. It is located on the CSDE school nurse web page at [www.ct.gov/sde/schoolnurse](http://www.ct.gov/sde/schoolnurse)
8. The HAR-3 that will be printed is located on the School Nursing website at [www.ct.gov/sde/schoolnurse](http://www.ct.gov/sde/schoolnurse).

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