

Human to Human Transmission of Wuhan Novel Coronavirus Infection outside China: Situation of the First Case and What's the Source of Infection?

Sir,

An important thing for successful prevention of any new disease is knowledge of its natural history and epidemiology. For the newest emerging infectious disease that World Health Organization (WHO) declares as global emergency, Wuhan novel coronavirus infection, it is a febrile illness with pulmonary problem.^[1] The human to human transmission has just been confirmed since late December 2020. The disease widely spread from human to human in China and the disease is already imported to several countries around the world.^[2] At present, apart from imported cases, either Chinese tourist or returning traveler, there are some cases of newly diagnosed cases of infection outside China who have no history of traveling to China. The human-to-human transmission of Wuhan novel coronavirus infection outside China among the local people who have no history of travel to China is interesting.

At present, there are such cases in Japan, South Korea, Germany, USA, France and Thailand. The first case reports overall 5 cases which are declared from those countries in late January. The 6 cases, known occupations of 4 cases with available data are bus driver in 1 case, 1 case, physician 1 case and taxi driver 1 case. Considering the source of infection of these 6 indexed cases, 3 cases are infected patients (family member 2 cases, non - family member 1 case), immigrant Chinese tourists 2 cases and Chinese colleague 1 case. Based on these data, it can imply that a) the main group that take risk for getting human to human transmission of Wuhan novel coronavirus infection despite no history of travel to China are ones who take role in transportation service for immigrant Chinese and ones who contact with primary imported patient and b) the two main original source of infection are Chinese tourists and imported patients regardless Chinese or not. This data is vital for preventive action plan against this new disease.

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Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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