



China's HMPV Virus Outbreak: Key Concerns Unveiled

Description

Human Metapneumovirus (HMPV) is typically recognized for inducing symptoms akin to a common cold, such as coughs, wheezing, and runny noses. However, a recent uptick in HMPV cases, particularly among children under 14 in northern China, has prompted authorities to issue warnings as the Lunar New Year—the peak season for travel and social gatherings—draws near, often coinciding with health crises.

According to Xinhua, China's state news agency, HMPV cases have been on a steady incline since mid-December, with notable increases in both outpatient and emergency visits. Officials caution that these numbers could climb even higher as holiday travel reaches its apex.

During a news briefing on Friday, December 27, Kan Biao, the director of the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention's Institute for Infectious Diseases, commented that while the surge is noteworthy, it follows the expected seasonal patterns of respiratory viruses such as influenza and RSV.

Protective Measures:

- To mitigate the risk of infection, health experts advocate:
- Diligent handwashing with soap and water.
- Wearing masks in crowded or insufficiently ventilated spaces.
- Avoiding close contact with symptomatic individuals.
- Staying home when feeling unwell.

Experts highlight that HMPV is distinct from COVID-19 in several critical aspects. Unlike COVID-19, HMPV is not a novel virus, and there is already broad immunity within the population.

Chinese officials have reassured the public that the healthcare system can manage the current situation but are also implementing a new system to monitor unknown pneumonia cases, aiming to enhance early detection strategies.

Stay tuned to Daily Voice for further updates as the situation evolves.



Vocabulary List:

1. **Metapneumovirus** /ˌmetəˈnju:məˌvaɪrəs/ (noun): A virus that causes respiratory infections particularly in children.
2. **Symptoms** /ˈsɪmptəmz/ (noun): Physical or mental features indicating a condition or disease.
3. **Caution** /ˈkɔːʃən/ (noun): Care taken to avoid danger or mistakes.
4. **Infectious** /ɪnˈfɛkʃəs/ (adjective): Capable of causing infection or being transmitted.
5. **Surge** /sɜːrdʒ/ (noun): A sudden increase or rise.
6. **Mitigate** /ˈmɪtɪgeɪt/ (verb): To make less severe serious or painful.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What are typical symptoms induced by Human Metapneumovirus (HMPV)?
Option: Fever and fatigue
Option: Coughs, wheezing, and runny noses
Option: Joint pain and headache
Option: Shortness of breath and chest pain
2. Where has there been a recent uptick in HMPV cases, notably among children under 14?
Option: Southern China
Option: Northern China
Option: Eastern China
Option: Western China
3. Who commented that the surge in HMPV cases follows expected seasonal patterns of other respiratory viruses?
Option: Kan Biao
Option: Xinhua
Option: Chinese Center for Disease Control
Option: Daily Voice
4. What protective measure is advocated by health experts to mitigate the risk of HMPV infection?
Option: Drinking herbal teas



- Option: Wearing sunglasses indoors
- Option: Avoiding crowded places
- Option: Diligent handwashing with soap and water

5. How is HMPV distinct from COVID-19 according to experts?

- Option: HMPV is a novel virus
- Option: COVID-19 induces joint pain
- Option: HMPV has broad population immunity
- Option: COVID-19 is only transmitted through animals

6. What new system are Chinese officials implementing to enhance early detection strategies for unknown pneumonia cases?

- Option: Online shopping platform
- Option: Public transportation network
- Option: Healthcare system expansion
- Option: Monitoring system for pneumonia cases

True-False

- 7. Authorities have issued warnings due to an increase in HMPV cases, especially in adults over 60.
- 8. HMPV cases have been decreasing since mid-December according to Xinhua.
- 9. HMPV is a novel virus like COVID-19.
- 10. Chinese officials reassured the public that the healthcare system may face challenges in managing the current situation.
- 11. Experts recommend avoiding close contact with symptomatic individuals to prevent HMPV infection.
- 12. HMPV is typically recognized for producing symptoms similar to a common cold.

Gap-Fill

- 13. Chinese officials are implementing a new system to monitor unknown pneumonia cases, aiming to enhance early detection strategies: _____.
- 14. HMPV is distinct from COVID-19 in that it already has broad immunity within the population, unlike



COVID-19 which is a _____ virus.

15. Kan Biao, the director of the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention's Institute for Infectious Diseases, stated that the surge in HMPV cases follows the expected seasonal patterns of respiratory viruses such as influenza and _____.

16. Health experts advocate diligent handwashing with soap and water as one of the protective measures against HMPV to mitigate the risk of _____.

17. The peak season for travel and social gatherings, often coinciding with health crises, is approaching, leading to concerns about a potential increase in HMPV cases during the _____.

18. HMPV is typically recognized for inducing symptoms akin to a _____, such as coughs, wheezing, and runny noses.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Coughs, wheezing, and runny noses 2. Northern China 3. Kan Biao 4. Diligent handwashing with soap and water 5. HMPV has broad population immunity 6. Monitoring system for pneumonia cases

True-False: 7. False 8. False 9. False 10. False 11. True 12. True

Gap-Fill: 13. Monitoring system for pneumonia cases 14. novel 15. RSV 16. infection 17. Lunar New Year 18. common cold

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. Which term refers to substances that bind to a receptor and activate or stimulate it to produce a biological response?



- Option: Agonists
- Option: Prohibit
- Option: Hazardous
- Option: Impulsive

2. Which term describes the process of interaction and integration among people companies and governments worldwide?

- Option: Insecurity
- Option: Globalization
- Option: Compliance
- Option: Array

3. What term refers to the act or process of passing something from one person or place to another?

- Option: Quarantine
- Option: Infectious
- Option: Transmission
- Option: Mitigate

4. What is the term for the ability of an organism to resist a particular infection or toxin?

- Option: Surge
- Option: Immunity
- Option: Substantial
- Option: Dilemma

5. Which term refers to the act of conforming to a rule command or request?

- Option: Demands
- Option: Extreme
- Option: Caution
- Option: Compliance

6. What activity involves allocating resources usually money in expectation of benefit in the future?

- Option: Accuracy
- Option: Investing
- Option: Severe
- Option: Contagious

7. Which term refers to the process of combining different elements into a whole?

- Option: Unprecedented
- Option: Integration
- Option: Cardiovascular
- Option: Dilemma

8. What term describes the quality or state of being correct or precise?



- Option: Risk
- Option: Impulsive
- Option: Accuracy
- Option: Symptoms

9. What are the subjective manifestations of a pathological condition?

- Option: Risk
- Option: Infectious
- Option: Symptoms
- Option: Consequences

10. Which term refers to the conditions under which something is limited or restricted?

- Option: Caution
- Option: Limitations
- Option: Array
- Option: Navigation

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. _____ diseases refer to conditions that involve the heart or blood vessels.
12. The scale of the natural disaster was _____ and the impact was felt for years.
13. Efforts to _____ the effects of climate change are crucial for the planet's future.
14. The museum displayed an impressive _____ of artifacts from different historical periods.
15. Individuals exposed to contagious diseases may be placed in _____ to prevent further spread.
16. The storm warning indicated _____ weather conditions with high winds and heavy rainfall.
17. Studying for medical school exams is known to be _____ due to the vast amount of material to cover.
18. His _____ decision to quit his job surprised everyone as he had not planned it



beforehand.

19. Working with certain chemicals without proper protective gear can be extremely

_____ to health.

20. The flu virus is known to be highly _____ and can spread rapidly in crowded places.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. She faced a moral when deciding between helping her friend cheat or reporting the cheating.
22. The common cold is an disease that spreads easily among people.
23. Scientific experiments require a high level of _____ to ensure reliable results.
24. There was a sudden _____ in the number of COVID-19 cases in the region leading to a healthcare crisis.
25. The company experienced a increase in profits after implementing cost-saving measures.
26. Advanced GPS technology has revolutionized the way we approach while driving.
27. The scientific discovery was considered _____ due to its groundbreaking nature.
28. The high-stress job often places significant _____ on employees to meet tight deadlines.
29. When handling hazardous materials it is essential to proceed with great _____ to prevent accidents.
30. _____ is a type of respiratory virus that can cause symptoms similar to the common cold.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Agonists 2. Globalization 3. Transmission 4. Immunity 5. Compliance 6. Investing
7. Integration 8. Accuracy 9. Symptoms 10. Limitations

Gap-Fill: 11. Cardiovascular 12. unprecedented 13. mitigate 14. array 15. quarantine 16. severe 17.
demanding 18. impulsive 19. hazardous 20. contagious

Matching sentence: 1. Dilemma 2. Infectious 3. Accuracy 4. Surge 5. Substantial 6. Navigation 7.
Unprecedented 8. Demands 9. Caution 10. Metapneumovirus

CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL4



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