

CIMC's Update on the COVID-19 Coronavirus

3/5/20

In an effort to support the health of our CIMC community, we'd like to address the concern about COVID-19 (coronavirus disease 2019) by providing some helpful guidelines when visiting the Center. We are guided by information provided by the Centers for Disease Control ([CDC](#)) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health ([MDPH](#)).

Coronavirus causes a respiratory (lung) infection. Symptoms include fever, cough and shortness of breath, and in severe cases, pneumonia (fluid in the lungs). To date, there has been just one confirmed case of the coronavirus in Massachusetts and Department of Public Health officials state that the risk to residents in Massachusetts remains **low**.

If you are coughing, sneezing, have or have had a fever, we ask that you stay home. This is the most important action you can take to protect others.

The coronavirus is on people's minds and even the perception of illness can cause alarm. Please, take care of both yourself and the CIMC community by waiting until you are well to return. **CIMC will offer a refund for any program you cannot attend due to illness.**

Other preventative measures we strongly encourage to help stop the spread of germs are:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with either a tissue or your inner elbow.

We're asking those who have traveled to any place the CDC is designating "Level 3" not to visit CIMC until they have been symptom-free for 14 days upon return. Current Level 3 countries are China, Iran, Italy, and South Korea. Please visit the [CDC](#) site for the most up to-date information.

At this time, we are not cancelling any CIMC programs due to the coronavirus. We are closely monitoring the COVID-19 situation as it unfolds and should this change, CIMC will communicate with the community by email and on the "ANNOUNCEMENTS" section of our website homepage.



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