

The Corona virus disease

What is Corona virus?

A virus is a pathogen.

A virus is very small.

One can only see it with a very good microscope.

A virus sometimes changes.

Then a new virus is emerging.

A new virus can be dangerous.

Because the human body doesn't yet know the new virus.

Then the body has no defenses against the virus and people get sick.

The Corona virus is such a new virus.

If people get affected by Corona virus, they show the following symptoms:

- Sniff and cough
- Fever
- Breathing problems

For weak or old people the disease can be very dangerous. Some people die from the disease.

A person with Corona virus can infect other people.

For example:

If a person coughs up another.

If a person sneezes close to others.

Where does the Corona virus come from?

The disease Corona virus has been around since December 2019. In the city of Wuhan/China, the disease appeared first. Meanwhile, many people in China are sick.

The city of Wuhan is far away from Germany, almost 8,500 kilometers. It takes 15 hours by plane to get there.

Nevertheless it is possible that the disease comes to Germany.

For example:

A person flies from China to Germany.

The person suffers from the Corona virus.

But the person doesn't know that, because it takes days to recognize the disease.

What can the people in North Rhine-Westphalia do?

If you are infected, you get a fever, runny nose and cough. Talk to a doctor. You may have to go to a hospital. In the hospital you will get a treatment against the disease.

These things help of not getting infected:

Wash your hands regularly.

Use handkerchiefs if you catch a cold.

The Text is written by the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of North Rhine-Westphalia.