

# Food Safety Advice on Prevention of COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

On WHO's recommendations, the Centre for Food Safety reminds the public to:



## Always keep hands clean

- Rub hands with liquid soap for at least 20 seconds
- Particularly after handling raw food, after going to the toilet and before eating



## Separate raw and cooked food



## Cook food thoroughly

- Avoid raw and undercooked animal products



## Avoid contact with animals, poultry and their faeces when travelling abroad

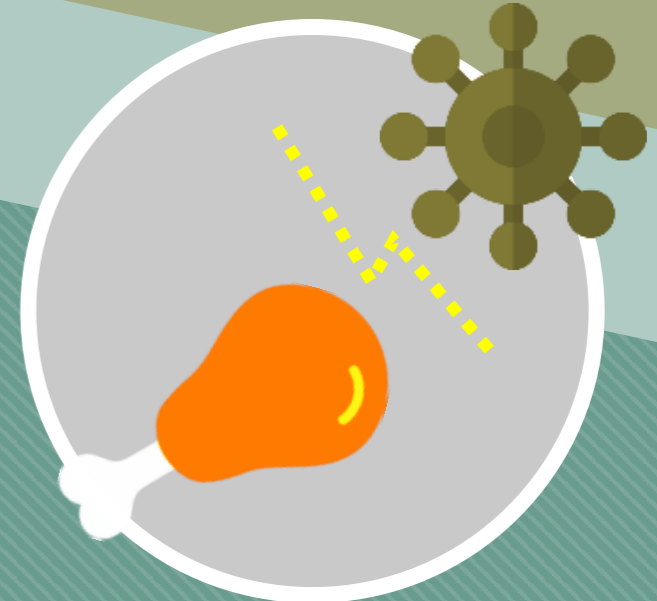
- Avoid visiting wet markets, live poultry markets or farms
- No eating games or visiting restaurants that serve games
- Do not bring game, meat, poultry, or eggs into Hong Kong illegally.

## Can COVID-19 be transmitted via food?

**To date, there is no evidence indicating that human can be infected by COVID-19 via food.**

Food safety assessment authorities in overseas countries including Germany, Australia and New Zealand considered that it is unlikely that COVID-19 can be transmitted to human via food.

Nevertheless, according to the recommendations from the WHO, members of public should always observe personal, food and environmental hygiene such as wash your hands between handling raw and cooked food, cook food thoroughly, and separate raw meat or animal organs from cooked food, etc. to ensure food safety.



## Will people contract the COVID-19 by receiving packages of food?

**The WHO stated that the virus may persist on surfaces for a few hours to several days, varying under different conditions. The WHO also considered that the likelihood of an infected person contaminating commercial goods is low and the risk of catching the virus from a package that has been moved, travelled, and exposed to different conditions and temperature is also low.**

The novel coronavirus is mainly transmitted through respiratory droplets. There is no evidence to support the transmission of the novel coronavirus associated with imported goods. Overseas public health authorities such as the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention share similar view. To prevent contact transmission, members of public should perform proper hand hygiene.



For more related food safety advice and FAQs, please visit [cfs.gov.hk](https://www.cfs.gov.hk)

