In accordance with The Claremont Colleges Services Student Communicable Disease Plan, we are issuing a Health Advisory.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is closely monitoring an outbreak caused by a new coronavirus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. Chinese authorities identified the new coronavirus, which has resulted in many confirmed cases in China, including cases outside Wuhan, with additional cases being identified in a growing number of countries internationally. The first case in the United States was announced on January 21, 2020. To date, no students, faculty or staff have been diagnosed with Coronavirus at The Claremont Colleges.

Avoid Nonessential Travel. CDC recommends that travelers avoid all nonessential travel to China. The US Department of State advises no travel to China.

What is the coronavirus?
Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some causing respiratory illness in people and others circulating among animals including camels, cats and bats. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can evolve and infect people and then spread between people, such as has been seen with Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS). The 2019 coronavirus outbreak (2019-nCoV) is a new strain of coronavirus that has not been previously identified in humans.

When person-to-person spread has occurred with SARS and MERS, it is thought to happen via respiratory droplets with close contacts, similar to how influenza and other respiratory pathogens spread. The situation with regard to 2019-nCoV is still unclear. While severe illness, including illness resulting in several deaths, has been reported in China, other patients have had milder illness and been discharged. While originally thought to be spreading from animal-to-person, we now know person-to-person spread is happening. It’s unclear how easily this virus is spreading between people.

The confirmation that person-to-person spread with this virus is occurring raises the level of concern about this virus, but CDC continues to believe the risk of 2019-nCoV to the American public at large remains low at this time. Older adults and people with underlying health conditions are at increased risk for severe disease. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health states that “there is no immediate threat to the general public, no special precautions are required, and people should not
be excluded from activities based on their race, country of origin, or recent travel if they do not have symptoms of respiratory illness. Los Angeles County residents, students, workers, and visitors should continue to engage in their regular activities and practice good public health hygiene as this is the height of flu season across the County.

The risk from the novel coronavirus 2019 to spread in Los Angeles County residents is deemed to be low at this time.”  

Source:  
http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/

What are the symptoms?
Most people with the illness report symptoms very similar to the flu, including runny nose, headache, cough, sore throat, fever, and shortness of breath. Unfortunately, about 20% of those infected have died and this why the outbreak is getting international attention. Only one death outside of China has been attributed to the Coronavirus, which was not in the United States.

What should I do if I feel sick?
IF YOU ARE ILL WITH SYMPTOMS AND HAVE TRAVELED TO CHINA IN THE LAST 14 DAYS, CALL STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES IMMEDIATELY AT 909-621-8222. AFTER HOURS OR WEEKENDS, CALL CAMPUS SAFETY AT (909) 607-2000.

What are important additional steps I can take?
• Avoid contact with others if feeling ill and symptomatic.
• Do not travel while sick.
• Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing.
• Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.

After-hours (weekend) Medical Assistance:
If you are symptomatic, please call (909) 621-8222 and press option 5 to speak with a registered nurse. For urgent medical assistance call Campus Safety at (909) 607-2000 or 9-1-1.

Students can also seek care at:
• Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center—1798 N. Garey Avenue; Pomona, CA 91767 (909) 865-9500
• San Antonio Community Hospital—999 San Bernardino Road; Upland, CA 91786 (909) 985-2811

If you are ill, do not attempt to drive yourself to seek medical care, call an ambulance or Campus Safety. Notify the EMT or hospital if you had been to China within the previous 14 days before you arrive at the hospital.