

Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment

Press statement for Immediate release.

March 15th 2020

No confirmed Cases of COVID-19 in Hotels

ST. JOHN'S Antigua Barbuda... March 15th 2020.... The Ministry of Health, Wellness, and the Environment wishes to publicly refute the rumor of six (6) confirmed cases of COVID-19 in hotels in Antigua and Barbuda. As of Friday, March 13th, 2020, the island has reported one (1) confirmed case of COVID-19.

The ministry reiterates its assurance that there are no additional confirmed cases of Coronavirus/ COVID-19 in Antigua and Barbuda to date. We are in the process of taking additional samples that will be sent the CARPHA and will update the public of the results. The Ministry is also working the Pan American Health Organization to have COVID-19 testing on island.

The health ministry also advises that PAHO will be on the island tomorrow, March 16th, 2020. The team of technicians is expected to conduct meetings, site visits, training and simulation exercises.

The Ministry of Health, Wellness, and the Environment advises the public that the dissemination of unconfirmed, unverifiable news and information creates unnecessary panic. Spreading false information perpetuates fearmongering and does not help the community as we continue to educate and practice preventative measures against the virus.

The Ministry reminds the general public to exercise proper hand hygiene and cough etiquette as well as to take general measures against becoming ill. The latter includes adequate rest and hydration and the avoidance of sick persons.

If you think you might have contracted the virus, have been exposed to it or any other matters about the virus please contact the COVID-19 inquires hotline at 462 6843. Do not visit any healthcare facility unless instructed to do so.