



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

## Ministry of Health

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

Ground Floor Park Plaza, St. Vincent Street, Port of Spain

### M E D I A   R E L E A S E

March 5, 2020

#### Trinidad and Tobago COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) Update # 3

**Port-of-Spain, March 5, 2020:** As part of the national drive to safeguard the health of the Trinidad and Tobago population in the face of the global COVID-19 outbreak, the Ministry of Health continues to provide up-to-date information on the country's status in this regard.

As of the afternoon of **Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2020** the Ministry reports the following:

- **Number of samples submitted to the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) for testing for COVID-19 = 26**
- **Number of samples which have tested positive = 0**

This morning, members of the Standing Committee on the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) held their first meeting at the Head Office, Ministry of Health. The meeting was chaired by the Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Roshan Parasram and comprises persons representing key agencies across the public sector. The committee discussed additional public health measures to be implemented to protect the public from the threat of COVID-19.

The Ministry will continue to provide accurate information to the public in a timely fashion. The public is therefore urged to disregard and avoid sharing all unconfirmed, misleading and/or false information about COVID-19 (formerly Novel Coronavirus).

Members of the public are also asked to take the following personal hygiene measures to protect themselves and their loved ones from COVID-19:

- Wash your hands properly with soap and water
  - Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if water and soap are not available
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze
  - Dispose of tissue immediately after using
  - Cough and sneeze into the crook of your elbow if you do not have a tissue
- Avoid touching your face
- Stay home if you are ill
  - Avoid close contact with people who have flu-like symptoms

The Ministry of Health remains committed to delivering quality health care and providing up-to-date and accurate information to the Trinidad and Tobago population.



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