

VIRUS OUTBREAK

Second coronavirus patient confirmed in Japan

Tourist from Wuhan admitted to Tokyo hospital

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Passengers wait for thermography checks at Japan's Kansai International Airport. (Photo by Toshiki Sasazu)

TOKYO -- Japan has confirmed a second case of the new coronavirus from China, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare announced Friday morning, a week after the first patient tested positive.

A Chinese tourist in his 40s, who arrived from Wuhan on Sunday, has been admitted to a hospital in Tokyo.

The man had a fever from Jan. 14 and had seen a doctor on Jan. 15 and Jan. 17, but was not diagnosed as having pneumonia and went ahead with the trip. He wore a mask during his sightseeing, the ministry said.

The man went to see a doctor in Japan on Monday but once again was not diagnosed with pneumonia. Because he continued to have a fever and pain in the throat, the man went again Wednesday and was admitted due to suspicion of pneumonia. The National Institute of Infectious Diseases confirmed Friday that he was infected with the coronavirus.

The man had not visited the seafood and live-animal market in Wuhan that is believed to be the epicenter of the outbreak, and he is not known to have been in contact with any pneumonia patients.

This marks the second coronavirus infection found in Japan. A Chinese man living in Kanagawa Prefecture was discovered to be infected Jan. 16.

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