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## MEDIA RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Results of Two Ohio 2019 Coronavirus Tests Come Back Negative – No Other Persons Under Investigation in Ohio

February 3, 2020 – The Ohio Department of Health (ODH), the Butler County General Health District and Miami University announced the test results from two students at Miami University in Butler County for the 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) are negative. There are no other persons under investigation in Ohio.

ODH Director Dr. Amy Acton, MD, MPH, emphasized that the risk of the general U.S. population contracting the novel coronavirus is low and ODH is working closely with local health departments and health care providers and will provide updates as the situation changes.

The novel coronavirus is spread through respiratory droplets, which means to become infected, people generally must be within six feet of someone who is contagious and have droplets land on them. Symptoms of coronavirus appear within 2 to 14 days after exposure and include fever, cough, runny nose and difficulty breathing. There is currently no vaccine to prevent 2019-nCoV infection.

“Local residents are at MUCH greater risk of getting the flu, and we do have a vaccine for that,” notes Anne Goon, Marietta/Belpre Health Commissioner. Flu vaccine is still available at Marietta/Belpre Health Department; residents should call (740) 373-0611, ext. 2312, to schedule an appointment to get their flu shot.

To prevent the spread of any virus (including the novel coronavirus), Marietta/Belpre Health Department reminds residents to:

- Wash your hands often using soap and water.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home when you feel sick and avoid others who are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

More information on novel coronavirus can be found on the ODH website at <https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/Novel-Coronavirus/2019-nCoV>

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**One Team, One Goal: HEALTHY COMMUNITIES!**