

Turkey confirms first coronavirus death

17 March 2020

Turkey confirmed its first novel coronavirus-related death on Tuesday as the number of cases in the country rose to 98.

"Today, I lost my first patient in our fight against coronavirus," Health Minister Fahrettin Koca told a televised press conference, adding that the victim was an 89-year-old man who contracted the virus from an employee with connections to China.

The minister also said the number of cases had risen from 47 to 98.

"The big majority of those who tested positive are recovering," Koca said.

Turkey has announced a series of preventive measures in an effort to contain the spread of the [coronavirus](#), including [travel restrictions](#) on 20 countries and the closure of schools and universities.

Authorities on Monday suspended collective mosque prayers until further notice and ordered the closure of public spaces, including cinemas.

© 2020 AFP

APA citation: Turkey confirms first coronavirus death (2020, March 17) retrieved 7 June 2021 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-03-turkey-coronavirus-death.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.