

# Tech giants building coronavirus tracker

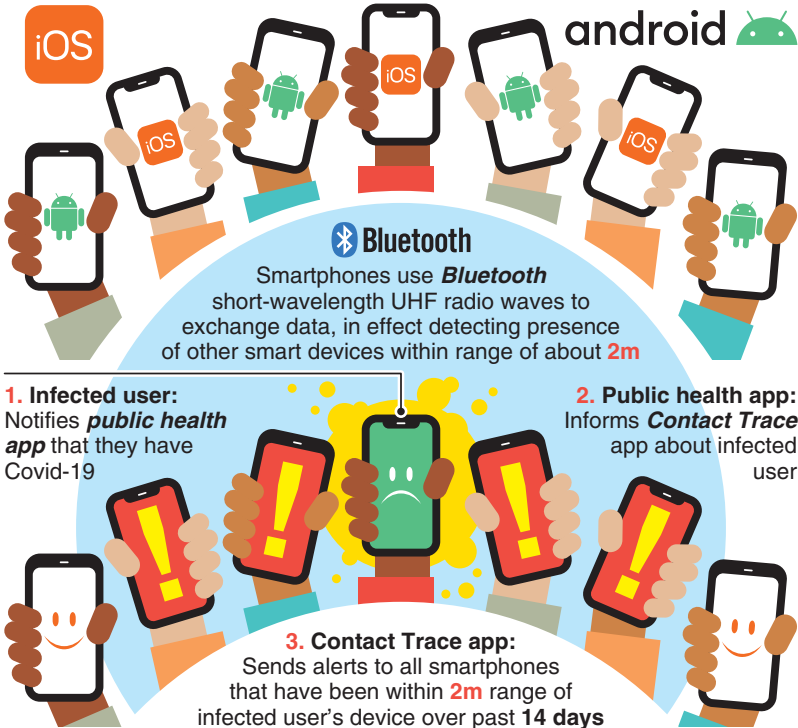
Smartphone technology giants Apple and Google, normally fierce rivals, have joined forces to create a smartphone app to track Covid-19 cases

## CURRENT "CONTACT TRACING" STRATEGY

1. Infected person asked to identify all recent close contacts
2. Exposed people told to monitor their health or self-isolate
3. If they too become infected, their recent contacts are tracked down
4. Repeat until all exposed people out of circulation, stopping spread

## HOW SMARTPHONES COULD ASSIST

Operating systems designed by Apple and Google power **99%** of world's smartphones – around **3.5 billion** devices (used by **45%** of global population)



**To allay privacy concerns, Apple and Google say no GPS location data will be stored and all information will remain anonymous and encrypted**

**App expected to be added to operating systems in summer 2020**

Sources: Reuters, New York Times, The Verge, BankMyCell, Worldometer

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