

What you need to know about COVID-19

What is coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)?

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. The virus that causes COVID-19 was first identified in Wuhan, China in December 2019.

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

People with COVID-19 have mild to severe respiratory illness, or problems with their lungs and breathing.

Symptoms include:

- fever
- cough
- shortness of breath

Have there been cases of COVID-19 in the U.S.?

Yes. The first case of COVID-19 in the United States was reported on January 21, 2020. The current count of cases of COVID-19 in the United States is available on CDC's webpage at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html>.

How does COVID-19 spread?

The virus that causes COVID-19 can be spread from person to person. A sick person can spread the virus to others by coughing or sneezing near them. The virus can also spread through close personal contact, like touching or shaking hands with a sick person.

Who is most at risk of severe COVID-19?

- Elders and adults over 60 years of age
- People with heart and lung disease
- People with diabetes

How can I protect myself and my family?

- Avoid people who are sick
- Avoid crowds. Try to stay at least 6 feet away from others
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer.



If you are sick, to keep from spreading respiratory illness to others, you should:

- Stay home, unless you are having a hard time breathing
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and frequently touched objects

If you or a family member is having trouble breathing, you should call your doctor

- But do not go to the hospital if you only have mild symptoms

Is there a vaccine?

There is currently no vaccine to protect against COVID-19. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.

Is there a treatment?

There is no specific antiviral treatment for COVID-19. People with COVID-19 can seek medical care to help relieve symptoms.



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For more information: www.cdc.gov/COVID19