

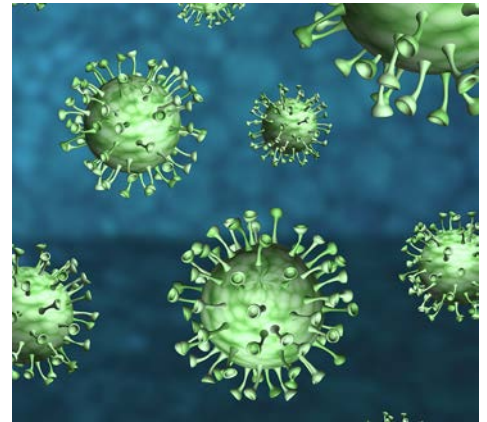
COVID-19: Protecting Yourself and Others

Helpful tips

How does the COVID-19 virus spread?

Doctors believe that it spreads mainly when people are in close contact with each other. The virus moves through the air when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or even just talks.

Some people who have COVID-19 do not have any symptoms. These people can spread the virus without knowing it.



Follow the tips in this handout to help keep COVID-19 from spreading.

Is there a vaccine for COVID-19?

On December 11, 2020, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued the first emergency use authorization (EUA) for a vaccine to prevent COVID-19. Please talk with your doctor about when you can get the vaccine.

What can I do to protect myself and others?

The best way to stay safe is to avoid being exposed to the virus. Here are tips on how to protect yourself and others.

Wear a Mask

Wear a cloth face covering when you are around other people. Make sure it fully covers your mouth and nose.

Keep Your Distance

“Social distancing” can help keep COVID-19 from spreading. If you have the virus, it can help stop the spread of disease. If you are healthy, it can help keep you from getting sick.

- Stay about 6 feet away from other people as much as you can. This is about the length of 2 arms.



Wash your hands often with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds.

- Avoid hugging and handshakes for now.
- Avoid big crowds when you can. If you need to stand in line with other people, try to stay 6 feet away from them.

Hygiene

- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds as often as you can.
- Carry a hand sanitizer with you, if you can. It should contain at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze. If you do not have a tissue, cough or sneeze into the inside of your elbow.
- Try not to touch surfaces such as handrails, restroom counters, elevator buttons, shared digital screens, and benches. If you touch these surfaces, wash your hands for 20 seconds with soap and water or use a sanitizer.
- When using public transit:
 - Stay 6 feet away from others, if you can.
 - After you leave the station or stop, use your hand sanitizer.
 - As soon as you can, wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

What to Do

- If you have symptoms of COVID-19 such as cough, fever, or trouble breathing, contact your healthcare provider right away.
- If you do not have a provider, call the King County Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Call Center between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. at 206.477.3977.
- If you or someone you are caring for is having a medical emergency, call 911.
- For mental health services and support, call the King County 24-Hour Crisis Line at 1.866.427.4747.

The guidelines in this handout are adapted from Public Health Seattle- King County and CDC guidelines. This does not imply endorsement of UWMC services or enterprise by CDC, ATSDR, HHS or the U.S. government. This material is available on the agency website for no charge.

Questions?

Your questions are important. Call your doctor or healthcare provider if you have questions or concerns.

King County Novel Coronavirus Call Center: Call 206.477.3977 (8 a.m. to 7 p.m.)