WHO is continuously monitoring and responding to this outbreak. This Q&A will be updated as more is known about COVID-19, how it spreads and how it is affecting people worldwide. For more information, check back regularly on WHO’s coronavirus pages.

https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019

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**What is a coronavirus?**

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**What is COVID-19?**

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**What are the symptoms of COVID-19?**

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**How does COVID-19 spread?**

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**What can I do to protect myself and prevent the spread of disease?**

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**How likely am I to catch COVID-19?**
Should I worry about COVID-19?

Who is at risk of developing severe illness?

Are antibiotics effective in preventing or treating the COVID-19?

Are there any medicines or therapies that can prevent or cure COVID-19?

Is there a vaccine, drug or treatment for COVID-19?

Not yet. To date, there is no vaccine and no specific antiviral medicine to prevent or treat COVID-2019. However, those affected should receive care to relieve symptoms. People with serious illness should be hospitalized. Most patients recover thanks to supportive care.

Possible vaccines and some specific drug treatments are under investigation. They are being tested through clinical trials. WHO is coordinating efforts to develop vaccines and medicines to prevent and treat COVID-19.

The most effective ways to protect yourself and others against COVID-19 are to frequently clean your hands, cover your cough with the bend of elbow or tissue, and maintain a distance of at least 1 meter (3 feet) from people who are coughing or sneezing. (See Basic protective measures against the new coronavirus).

Is COVID-19 the same as SARS?

Should I wear a mask to protect myself?

https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/q-a-coronaviruses
How to put on, use, take off and dispose of a mask?

How long is the incubation period for COVID-19?

Can humans become infected with the COVID-19 from an animal source?

Can I catch COVID-19 from my pet?

How long does the virus survive on surfaces?

Is it safe to receive a package from any area where COVID-19 has been reported?

Is there anything I should not do?

Information links

COVID-19 website

WHO travel advice

WHO TEAM  Health Emergencies Preparedness and Response

Related
Have questions about COVID-19? We have answers

Click this link and text the whatsapp number

Start the conversation

https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/q-a-coronaviruses
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