



Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

Other Frequently Asked Questions and Answers About:

- Travel
- Pregnant Women and COVID-19
- Water Transmission
- Healthcare Professionals
- Healthcare Infection
- Laboratory Diagnostic Panels
- Laboratory Biosafety
- Personal Protective Equipment
- K-12 Schools and Childcare Program Administrators

Coronavirus Disease 2019 Basics

- What is a novel coronavirus?+
- Why is the disease being called coronavirus disease 2019, COVID-19?+
- Why might someone blame or avoid individuals and groups (create stigma) because of COVID-19?+
- How can people help stop stigma related to COVID-19?+

How It Spreads

- What is the source of the virus?+
- How does the virus spread?+
- Can someone who has had COVID-19 spread the illness to others?+
- Can someone who has been quarantined for COVID-19 spread the illness to others?+
- Can the virus that causes COVID-19 be spread through food, including refrigerated or frozen food?+
- Will warm weather stop the outbreak of COVID-19?+
- What is community spread?+

How to Protect Yourself

- Am I at risk for COVID-19 in the United States?+

Has anyone in the United States gotten infected?	+
How can I help protect myself?	+
What should I do if I had close contact with someone who has COVID-19?	+
Who is at higher risk for serious illness from COVID-19?	+
What should people at higher risk of serious illness with COVID-19 do?	+
Does CDC recommend the use of facemask to prevent COVID-19?	+
Am I at risk for COVID-19 from a package or products shipping from China?	+

Symptoms & Testing

What are the symptoms and complications that COVID-19 can cause?	+
Should I be tested for COVID-19?	+
Can a person test negative and later test positive for COVID-19?	+
Why might someone blame or avoid individuals and groups (create stigma) because of COVID-19?	+
How can people help stop stigma related to COVID-19?	+

Healthcare Professionals and Health Departments

What should healthcare professionals and health departments do?	+
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FAQs for Healthcare Professionals

COVID-19 and Funerals

Am I at risk if I go to a funeral or visitation service for someone who died of COVID-19?	+
Am I at risk if I touch someone who died of COVID-19 after they have passed away?	+
What do Funeral Home Workers need to know about handling decedents who had COVID-19?	+
What should I do if my family member died from COVID-19 while overseas?	+
My family member died from COVID-19 while overseas. What are the requirements for returning the body to the United States?	+

What CDC is Doing

What is CDC doing about COVID-19?	+
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COVID-19 and Animals

What about animals or animal products imported from China?	+
Can I travel to the United States with dogs or import dogs into the United States during the COVID-19 outbreak?	+
Should I be concerned about pets or other animals and COVID-19?	+
Should I avoid contact with pets or other animals if I am sick with COVID-19?	+
What precautions should be taken for animals that have recently been imported (for example, by shelters, rescue groups, or as personal pets) from China?	+

Footnotes

¹Fever may be subjective or confirmed

²Close contact is defined as—

a) being within approximately 6 feet (2 meters) of a COVID-19 case for a prolonged period of time; close contact can occur while caring for, living with, visiting, or sharing a health care waiting area or room with a COVID-19 case

– *or* –

b) having direct contact with infectious secretions of a COVID-19 case (e.g., being coughed on)

If such contact occurs while not wearing recommended personal protective equipment or PPE (e.g., gowns, gloves, NIOSH-certified disposable N95 respirator, eye protection), criteria for PUI consideration are met”

See CDC’s updated [Interim Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Persons Under Investigation for 2019 Novel Coronavirus](#).

Data to inform the definition of close contact are limited. Considerations when assessing close contact include the duration of exposure (e.g., longer exposure time likely increases exposure risk) and the clinical symptoms of the person with COVID-19 (e.g., coughing likely increases exposure risk as does exposure to a severely ill patient). Special consideration should be given to those exposed in health care settings.

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