COVID-19: Your Care

AlfredHealth COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus resources



Coronavirus (COVID-19)

- Section 1: The Coronavirus and testing
- Section 2: Quarantine while waiting for a test
- Section 3: Quarantine when confirmed case



Developed & reviewed by our consumers





Section 1

What is coronavirus?

Coronavirus is a new virus that makes people sick. It is sometimes called COVID-19. We call it the virus.

Most people who have the virus might have:



• a fever making them feel hot and cold



• a sore throat

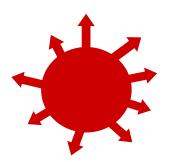


coughing



• shortness of breath





- The virus is too small to see.
- You can't see where it is and you can't tell if it has passed from one person to another.



• The virus has been moving fast from person to person.

How do I find out if I have coronavirus?



If my carers or the doctors think I could have coronavirus I will need a test to check this.



• The test for the virus is done with a long cotton bud called a swab.



- The nurse will show me how to put the swab up my nose and twist it around for about 10 seconds.
- If I need help, the nurse will do it for me. It might feel uncomfortable, but I need to stay calm and still until it is finished.



- The swab will be sent to the laboratory to find out if I have the virus or not.
- It can take a few days to find out the result.
- Sometimes I might need to do the test again to be really sure.



Section 2

Waiting to find out if I have coronavirus or not



- To make sure that I don't pass the virus on to my family or carers, I must stay in hospital until I find out if I have the virus or not.
- I might not feel very sick, but staying in hospital will stop my family and carers getting sick from the virus.



- While I am in hospital I have my own room.
- I must stay in my room all the time.
- I need to stay in my room until I am told I am allowed to go home.



- The doctors and nurses take care of me.
- To keep the doctors and nurses safe they wear special equipment like gowns, masks and goggles.
- They do this to keep themselves safe from the virus.





- There is a call bell in my room. If I need help, I press the green button.
- The staff will know that I need them and come as soon as they can.

While I am in hospital, the nurses and doctors check on me to see how I am feeling.

They may do some tests over and over again to see if there are any changes in my body.



• To check my blood pressure, the nurse puts a cuff on my arm. It feels like a squeeze.



• To check my temperature, the nurse puts a thermometer on my forehead.





 To check my oxygen the nurse puts a peg on my finger







- If the doctor decides I need a blood test they will need to take some of my blood.
- They will do this by putting a tight band around my arm. Then they will prick my arm and the blood will fill up a little tube. I need to stay still while the blood is coming out.
- The doctor might decide I need an X-ray of my chest.
- This is to check whether the virus has affected my lungs
- To stop my family and friends from catching the virus from me I am not able to see them while I am in hospital.
- This is hard but I feel good knowing I am helping to keep my family and friends safe.





- My family or carers can drop off some of my favourite things or activities to help me feel more comfortable in my room.
- I can talk to my family and friends on the telephone.



• I can watch television in my room.



- The doctors and nurses tell me when it is safe for me to leave the hospital.
- My family or carer come to the hospital and drive me home again.



Section 3

What happens if the test says I have coronavirus?





- To make sure that I don't pass the virus on to my family or carers, I must stay in hospital until the virus is gone.
- I might not feel very sick, but staying in hospital will stop my family and carers getting sick from the virus.
- While I am in hospital I have my own room.
- I must stay in my room all the time.
- I need to stay in my room until I am told I am allowed to go home.
- This could take more than 2 weeks.



- The doctors and nurses take care of me.
- To keep the doctors and nurses safe they wear special equipment like gowns, masks and goggles.
- They do this to keep themselves safe from the virus.





- There is a call bell in my room. If I need help, I press the green button.
- The staff will know that I need them and come as soon as they can.

While I am in hospital, the nurses and doctors check on me to see how I am feeling.

They may do some tests over and over again to see if there are any changes in my body.



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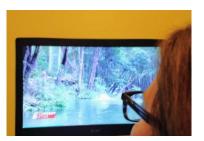


- If the doctor decides I need a blood test they will need to take some of my blood.
- They will do this by putting a tight band around my arm. Then they will prick my arm and the blood will fill up a little tube. I need to stay still while the blood is coming out.
- A few days each week I will need to have an X-ray of my chest.
- This is to check whether the virus has affected my lungs.
- To stop my family and friends from catching the virus from me I am not able to see them while I am in hospital.
- This is hard but I feel good knowing I am helping to keep my family and friends safe.





- My family or carers can drop off some of my favourite things or activities to help me feel more comfortable in my room.
- I can talk to my family and friends on the telephone.



• I can also watch television in my room.



- The doctors and nurses tell me when it is safe for me to leave the hospital.
- My family or carer come to the hospital and drive me home again.