Coronavirus

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Who is at risk of getting the virus?
People who live, work, or travel in the regions where COVID-19 is spreading may get infected. COVID-19 is spreading in people of all ages. However, older people and those with underlying health conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, and chronic lung disease, are at higher risk of getting infected.

What should you do if you have had close contact with a person with COVID-19?
If you had close contact with a person who has COVID-19, you need to stay home and practice worst-case social distancing for 14 days. This means you need to stay at home and avoid social activities and public places.

What is the most effective way to prevent the spread of COVID-19?
The best way to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with others, avoiding crowds, washing hands frequently, and wearing a mask.

Advice from Physicians

Statement from regional philanthropies
Our organizations are deeply concerned about the impact COVID-19 has on the health care and human services challenges that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania faces. We are United we can do more.

We know communities of color will face disproportionate impacts, and we are planning to provide support and assistance to those systems that will suffer quickly and go broad.

What can’t predict the full measure of what this region will face, we know the key to dealing with this emergency is to work together to build capacity to solve the immediate and ongoing health care needs for one another so that we emerge stronger and more resilient.

- Bobby Watt, Heinz Endowment
- Grant Oliphant, Heinz Endowment
- Sam Reiman, Richard King Mellon Foundation
- Dave K. Roger, President and CEO, The Pittsburgh Foundation
- Lisa Schroeder, President and CEO, The Pittsburgh Foundation

Q: Who is at risk of getting the virus?
A: People who live, work, or travel in the regions where COVID-19 is spreading may get infected. COVID-19 is spreading in people of all ages. However, older people and those with underlying health conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, and chronic lung disease, are at higher risk of getting infected.

Q: What should you do if you have recently been exposed to someone with COVID-19?
A: If you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you need to stay home and practice worst-case social distancing for 14 days. This means you need to stay at home and avoid social activities and public places.

Q: Is COVID-19 the same as the flu?
A: No, COVID-19 is not the same as the flu. COVID-19 is caused by a different virus, and it has different symptoms and spread.

Q: Can I get COVID-19 from the flu shot?
A: No, you cannot get COVID-19 from getting a flu shot. Flu shots are safe and effective, and they can help you avoid getting the flu and reducing your risk of getting COVID-19.

Q: What should you do if you have symptoms of COVID-19?
A: If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should stay home and seek medical attention. Contact your primary care doctor before visiting the emergency room. If you are having severe symptoms, call 911 immediately.

Q: How can I protect myself from COVID-19?
A: The best way to protect yourself from COVID-19 is to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with others, avoiding crowds, washing hands frequently, and wearing a mask.

Q: Where can I get more information about COVID-19?