

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)

HOW TO ISOLATE AT HOME WHEN YOU HAVE COVID-19



Isolation means staying at home when you are sick with COVID-19 and avoiding contact with other people to help prevent the spread of disease to others in your home and your community.

If you have been diagnosed with COVID-19, it is expected that you take the following measures.

Limit contact with others

- ▶ Do not leave home unless absolutely necessary, such as to seek medical care.
- ▶ Do not go to school, work, other public areas or use public transportation (e.g. buses, taxis).
- ▶ Arrange to have groceries and supplies dropped off at your door to minimize contact.
- ▶ Stay in a separate room and use a separate bathroom from others in your home, if possible.
- ▶ If you have to be in contact with others, keep at least 2 metres between yourself and the other person. Keep interactions brief and wear a mask.
- ▶ Avoid contact with individuals with chronic conditions, compromised immune systems and older adults.
- ▶ Avoid contact with pets if you live with other people that may also be touching the pet.

Keep your hands clean

- ▶ Wash your hands **often** with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, and dry with disposable paper towels or dry reusable towel, replacing it when it becomes wet.
- ▶ You can also remove dirt with a wet wipe and then use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- ▶ Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- ▶ Cough or sneeze into the bend of your arm or into a tissue.

Avoid contaminating common items and surfaces

- ▶ At least once daily, clean and disinfect surfaces that you touch often, like toilets, bedside tables, doorknobs, phones and television remotes.
- ▶ Do not share personal items with others, such as toothbrushes, towels, bed linen, utensils or electronic devices.
- ▶ Use regular household disinfectants or diluted bleach (one part bleach and nine parts water) to disinfect.
- ▶ Place contaminated items that cannot be cleaned in a lined container, secure the contents and dispose of them with other household waste.
- ▶ Put the lid of the toilet down before flushing.

Care for yourself

- ▶ Monitor your symptoms as directed by your healthcare provider or **Public Health Authority**.
- ▶ If your symptoms get worse, immediately contact your healthcare provider or **Public Health Authority** and follow their instructions.
- ▶ Get some rest, eat a balanced diet, and stay in touch with others through 'communication devices'.

