














COVID-19 SELF-ISOLATION HOW TO PREVENT THE SPREAD

The following guidelines were compiled to ensure safer home care to reduce the potential spread of the virus to other occupants or carers. The information is aimed at the following people:

- People who may have been exposed to a positive case when travelling; working or living with someone who has the virus.
- People who have tested positive for COVID-19, but their condition does not require hospitalisation and they can recover at home.
- Patients who were hospitalised for initial treatment, but can now return home.

	RECOMMENDATIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remain at home while having symptoms. • Do not go to school or work, avoid public areas, public transport and social activities.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a separate bedroom if possible or preferably sleep alone in a bed. • Keep rooms well-ventilated or the windows opened. • Use a separate bathroom if possible.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit the use of shared spaces, e.g. the kitchen, lounge and bathroom. • If sharing a space cannot be avoided, follow all safety recommendations.
	<p>Wear a mask if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In close proximity or in the same room as others. • It is necessary to leave the house, e.g. to visit a doctor. <p>Alternatively:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain physical distancing recommendations. • Cover your cough and perform hand hygiene.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit contact with people. • No visitors (only those living in the house). • Where possible keep a safe distance from the older adult population and those with chronic illness. • If visits are necessary, try and maintain a distance of two meters from others where possible.
	<p>Use soap and water to wash hands thoroughly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After coughing, sneezing or handling tissues. • Before touching surfaces in any shared areas. • Before and after touching others in a shared environment. • After touching any shared surfaces, e.g. counters, furniture, the remote control or any other item, and before touching your face. <p>Alcohol hand rub:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alcohol-based hand rub can be used before and after touching items. • Only use alcohol-based hand rub that contains at least 60% alcohol. • Do not use alcohol-based hand rub when your hands are visibly soiled with dirt or body fluids, e.g. mucous after sneezing or coughing.

	Optimise sanitation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dry hands with a disposable paper towel. • Clean all surfaces regularly – at least daily. • Clean immediately if there has been splatter from any respiratory secretions. • Use a household detergent and water on a cloth to clean, which can be followed by wiping with a mild bleach solution.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When in your own room, use a tissue to cover your mouth when coughing and sneezing. • Blow your nose on tissues. • Throw away all used tissues in a disposable bag and wash your hands directly after.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wash crockery and cutlery used by the sick person separately using hot soapy water and allow to dry thoroughly.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not share linen or towels. • Linen items can be washed and dried as normal.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Try to not have very close contact with your pet. • Have someone else feed and play with your pets (because this is still a new virus and not everything is known about passing it on).
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you are feeling worse – seek medical help. • Wear a mask when travelling. • Notify the doctor or facility that you will be seeking medical assistance or call before attending – the reason for this is to limit exposure of others to the virus so that the infection can be contained.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When you feel well and no longer have any flu symptoms, such as coughing, a sore throat or a temperature, visit your doctor for his/her confirmation before you start socialising again.

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) is the name of the virus which causes the associated coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

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