COVID-19 HEALTH WARNING FOR PEOPLE LIVING HOMELESS



What is novel coronavirus?

COVID-19 (formerly known as the "novel coronavirus") is a new virus spreading from person-to-person. It is currently in the United States and many other countries.

How does it spread?

Health experts are still learning more about the spread. Currently, it is thought to spread:



when a sick person coughs, sneezes, or talks



between people who are close to each other (within about 6 feet)



by touching a surface or object with the virus and then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes

What are the symptoms?

People who have novel coronavirus have symptoms that may show up 2-14 days after being exposed to the virus. The most common are:

Fever (100.4 or above)



Cough



Hard time breathing



Other symptoms can include severe body aches, headache, sore throat, shaking chills, and being unable to smell or taste foods.

How bad is novel coronavirus?

Most people will feel mild symptoms such as fever and cough. Most people do not require hospital care. A much smaller number of people get really sick with lung and breathing problems.

Am I at higher risk?

People at higher risk include people:

- Over 65 years of age
- With other diseases like heart disease, lung disease, high blood pressure or diabetes
- With weakened immune systems
- Who weigh a lot

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How do I protect myself?



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (if soap/ water is not available, use alcohol-based hand gel)



Wear a cloth face covering that covers your mouth and nose in public





Stay 6 feet apart (about two arm lengths) when in public and waiting in line for food/shelter

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth, especially with unwashed hands

Cover your mouth/nose with a tissue, sleeve, or elbow when coughing or sneezing

When do I need to talk with a doctor?

Call your regular doctor, and do not go to the emergency room, if you have:

Fever (100.4 or above)



Cough



Harder time breathing than normal



If you are having a really hard time breathing, you should call 911. If you have symptoms and think you were around someone with the virus, call both your regular doctor, if you have one, and our King County Novel Coronavirus Call Center at (206) 477-3977.

What if I don't have a doctor?

Here are a few places you can see a provider:

- Downtown Public Health Phone number: (206) 477-8300
 Address: 2124 4th Ave./Seattle, WA 98121
- Mobile Medical Van Seattle & South King County
 Locations vary, learn more: <u>www.kingcounty.gov/mobilemed</u>
- City of Seattle (includes locations of public bathrooms): https://www.seattle.gov/mayor/covid-19
- More information from Healthcare for the Homeless Network (includes where to get tested): www.kingcounty.gov/covid/homeless
- ★ King County Novel Coronavirus Call Center: (206) 477-3977
 The Call Center is open 7 days a week, 8am-10pm