



DISCHARGE INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUSPECT AND CONFIRMED **COVID-19**



WHAT TO DO if you are being tested for or have been diagnosed with **COVID-19**

Your healthcare provider has determined you do not need to be hospitalized and can be isolated at home. You should follow the prevention steps in this brochure until your primary care physician or local health department says you can return to your normal activities.

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STAY HOME except to get medical care

People who are mildly ill with COVID-19 are able to isolate at home during their illness. **You should restrict activities outside your home, except for getting medical care.** Do not go to work, school, or public areas. Avoid using public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.



SEPARATE YOURSELF from other people and animals in your home

As much as possible, you should stay in a specific room and away from other people in your home. Also, you should use a separate bathroom, if available.

You should restrict contact with pets and other animals while you are sick with COVID-19, just like you would around other people. Although there have not been reports of pets or other animals becoming sick with COVID-19, it is still recommended that people sick with COVID-19 limit contact with animals until more information is known about the virus. When possible, have another member of your household care for your animals while you are sick. If you must care for your pet or be around animals while you are sick, wash your hands before and after you interact with pets and wear a facemask.



CALL AHEAD before visiting your doctor

If you have a medical appointment, call your healthcare provider and tell them that you are being tested for or have been diagnosed with COVID-19. This will help the healthcare provider's office take steps to keep other people from getting infected or exposed.



Wear a FACEMASK

You should wear a facemask when you are around other people (e.g., sharing a room or vehicle) or pets and before you enter a healthcare provider's office. If you are not able to wear a facemask (for example, because it causes trouble breathing), then people who live with you should not stay in the same room with you, or they should wear a facemask if they enter your room.



COVER your coughs and sneezes

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw used tissues in a lined trash can. Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or, if soap and water are not available, clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.



CLEAN your hands often

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing; going to the bathroom; and before eating or preparing food. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry.



Soap and water are the best option if hands are visibly dirty. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.



AVOID SHARING personal household items

You should not share dishes, drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, towels, or bedding with other people or pets in your home. **After using these items, they should be washed thoroughly with soap and water.**



CLEAN all “high-touch” surfaces everyday

High touch surfaces include counters, tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, phones, keyboards, tablets, and bedside tables. Also, clean any surfaces that may have blood, stool, or body fluids on them. **Use a household cleaning spray or wipe, according to the label instructions.** Labels contain instructions for safe and effective use of the cleaning product including precautions you should take when applying the product, such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation during use of the product.



MONITOR your symptoms

Seek prompt medical attention if you develop worsening symptoms like shortness of breath. **Before seeking care, call your healthcare provider and tell them that you have, or are being evaluated for, COVID-19.** Put on a facemask before you enter the facility. These steps will help the healthcare provider’s office minimize exposure to other people in the office or waiting room.

If you have a medical emergency and need to call 911, **notify the dispatch personnel that you have, or are being evaluated for COVID-19.** If possible, put on a facemask before emergency medical services arrive.



DURATION of home isolation

Patients with confirmed COVID-19 should remain under home isolation precautions until the risk of secondary transmission to others is thought to be low. The decision to discontinue home isolation precautions should be made on a case-by-case basis, in consultation with your healthcare providers and local health department.