

Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) OVERVIEW



**Feeling Sick? Stay home. Experiencing COVID-19 symptoms?
Call your doctor.**

What is Coronavirus (COVID-19)?

Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) is a pneumonia of unknown cause first detected in Wuhan, China.

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

How does COVID-19 spread ?

- Spread person-to-person between close contacts (within 2 meters) through droplets that spread in the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes

What are other possible ways that COVID-19 may spread?

- Per the Center for Disease Control, limited possibility of disease spread by coming in contact with people before they show symptoms and/or possibly by touching a surface/object that has the virus on it and then touching one's mouth, nose, or eyes.

What should your employer do to keep you safe?

- Provide employees updated information on staying safe from coronavirus at work
- Classify worker exposure to COVID-19. Tell you which job tasks may put you at risk for exposure to sources of infection & train you on safe work practices specific to the risk associated with your job tasks
- Provide & train you on proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Train you on cleaning & disinfecting procedures and safe use of chemicals.
- Promote safe work practices: require regular hand washing; provide soap & water. If not available, hand sanitizer
- Provide a workplace free from harassment
- Review health and safety protocols and ensure all staff are trained effectively

I've been asked to self-quarantine. Can I get Employment Insurance (EI)?

- Service Canada has waived the one-week waiting period for EI sickness benefits for new claimants who are quarantined so they can be paid for the first week of their claim
- Establishing a new dedicated toll-free phone number to support enquiries related to waiving the EI sickness benefits waiting period. Call 1-833-381-2725 to start your claim
- Priority EI application processing will be given to those who are under quarantine

What are daily preventive actions?

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cover mouth & nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw tissue in the trash.
- Wash your hands often with soap & water for at least 40 - 60 seconds.
- Use a 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer, if soap and water are not available.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Anyone concerned that they may have been exposed to, or are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 (coronavirus), should contact their primary care provider, local public health unit, or Telehealth (1-866-797-0000)