Coronavirus (COVID-19)

A new type of coronavirus has been making people sick. This new (novel) type causes coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). For some people, COVID-19 is a mild illness. For others, it is a severe illness. There are things you can do to help stop the spread and keep yourself and the community healthy.

**Preventing COVID-19**

- **Wash hands.** Wash hands well and often. Hand sanitizer can help if soap and water aren’t available.
- **Stay home if sick.** Stay home from work or school if you’re sick. Avoid going out other than to get care.
- **Clean surfaces.** Disinfect commonly touched surfaces often with regular household cleaners.
- **No close contact.** Keep your distance from people, especially those who show signs of illness.

**Use facemasks & coverings appropriately.** People should wear a homemade mask or face covering if they go out in public to places where social distancing is difficult. Please reserve medical masks for health care workers.

**Symptoms of COVID-19**

- **Fever**
- **Cough**
- **Shortness of Breath**

**If you think you have COVID-19**

Call your healthcare provider if you develop symptoms. Calling ahead protects others. Mention if you’ve been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you’ve recently traveled from an area with COVID-19. Telemedicine (Teladoc or similar services) may be helpful for those with mild symptoms. You may also call (517) 887-4517 for testing.
Preparing for COVID-19

Have a preparedness plan.
Think about daily supplies that you need and have plenty on hand. This may include things like food, water, medications, pet food and diapers. Visit www.ready.gov for help planning.

Connect with others and reliable sources.
Talk to friends and family about your plan. Get accurate information from sources like the health department, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or your health care provider. Follow reputable sources on social media.

How is this coronavirus spread?
• A person with the virus coughs or sneezes, releasing it into the air.
• People are in close contact (within 6 feet or less).
• Someone touches something that has the virus on it then touches their mouth, nose or eyes with unwashed hands.
• The virus is in respiratory droplets and possibly poop.

COVID-19
Stigma
Stigma can hurt efforts to stop COVID-19. No specific race or ethnicity is more susceptible.
Unless someone recently traveled from an area with COVID-19 or has had contact with someone who has it, they are at no greater risk than others.

Treatment for COVID-19
Currently, no specific antiviral treatment is recommended. People with COVID-19 should receive treatment to relieve symptoms. Severe cases may need hospitalization. Mild cases should practice self care at home and isolate themselves. Consult your health care provider.

Coping with COVID-19
SAMHSA’s Disaster Distress Helpline 1-800-662-4357 provides 24/7, yearround crisis counseling and support to people experiencing emotional distress related to disasters including outbreaks.

Connect & stay informed
Follow the Ingham County Health Department on social media and visit our website. If you have questions, call the ICHD COVID-19 response line at (517) 887-4517. Other reputable resources include the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and your health care provider.

What about schools and businesses?
If you work or are a student, ask your employer or school about their emergency plans.
If you are responsible for a school or business:
• Educate students or staff about COVID-19.
• Provide facial tissues, hand sanitizer, and no-touch trash cans.
• Frequently clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces.
• Review and share “continuity of operations plans.”