

Does smoking have an effect on the new coronavirus, COVID-19?



Smoking does not protect against COVID-19. In fact, smoking is deadly. More than 8 million people die each year as a result of tobacco use. People with underlying health conditions such as heart disease, which can be exacerbated by smoking, are at higher risk of severe COVID-19.

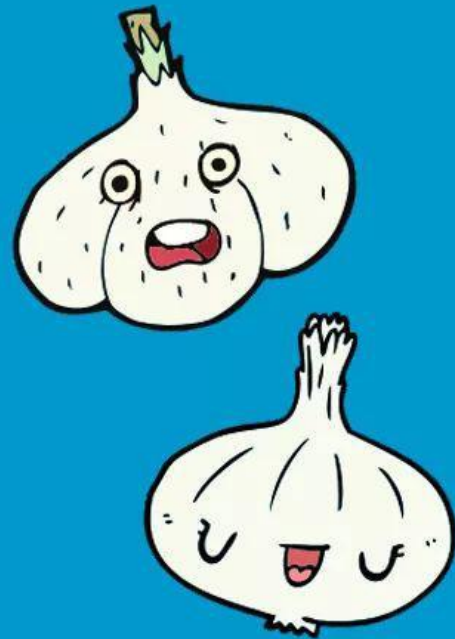
Is it safe to receive a letter or a package from China?

Yes, it is safe. People receiving packages from China are not at risk of contracting the new coronavirus.

From previous analysis, we know coronaviruses do not survive long on objects, such as letters or packages.



Can eating garlic help prevent infection with the new coronavirus (2019-nCoV)?



Garlic is a healthy food that may have some antimicrobial properties. However, there is no evidence from the current outbreak that eating garlic has protected people from the new coronavirus (2019-nCoV)



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If drinking water alleviates a sore throat, does this also protect against 2019-nCoV infection?



While staying hydrated by drinking water is important for overall health, it does not prevent coronavirus infection. If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early and share previous travel history with your health care provider. If possible, call ahead so your health care provider can prepare for your visit.

FACT:

The risk of being infected with the new coronavirus by touching coins, banknotes or credit cards and other objects, is very low



With proper hand cleaning, the risk of being infected with the new coronavirus by touching objects, including coins, banknotes or indeed credit cards, is very low.

The best protection is to clean your hands frequently with alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water. An object may be contaminated with the new coronavirus by an infected person coughing or sneezing or touching the object. Preliminary information suggests the new coronavirus can survive on surfaces for a few hours or more.

Does drinking alcohol prevent the new coronavirus (2019-nCoV)?

No, drinking alcohol does not protect you from 2019-nCoV

infection. Reduce your risk of coronavirus infection by frequently cleaning hands using alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water; when coughing and sneezing cover mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue – throw away immediately and wash hands; and avoid close contact with anyone who has fever and cough.



No. Breathing in the smoke and gas from a firework or firecracker is dangerous and does not kill the new coronavirus.

The smoke from fireworks and firecrackers contains sulphur dioxide, a mildly toxic gas that some people are allergic to. It can irritate your eyes, nose, throat and lungs and could even cause an asthma attack.

Also, you risk getting burned if you are near enough to a firework to breathe in its smoke.

Can the smoke and gas from fireworks and firecrackers prevent 2019-nCoV?



Does the new coronavirus affect older people, or are younger people also susceptible?



People of all ages can be infected by the new coronavirus (nCoV-2019). Older people, and people with pre-existing medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease) appear to be more vulnerable to becoming severely ill with the virus. WHO advise people of all ages to take steps to protect themselves from the virus, for example by following good hygiene and good respiratory hygiene.

Can spraying alcohol or chlorine all over your body kill the new coronavirus?

No. Spraying alcohol or chlorine all over your body will not kill viruses that have already entered your body. Spraying such substances can be harmful to clothes or mucous membranes (i.e., eyes, mouth). Be aware that both alcohol and chlorine can be useful to disinfect surfaces, but they need to be used under appropriate recommendations.

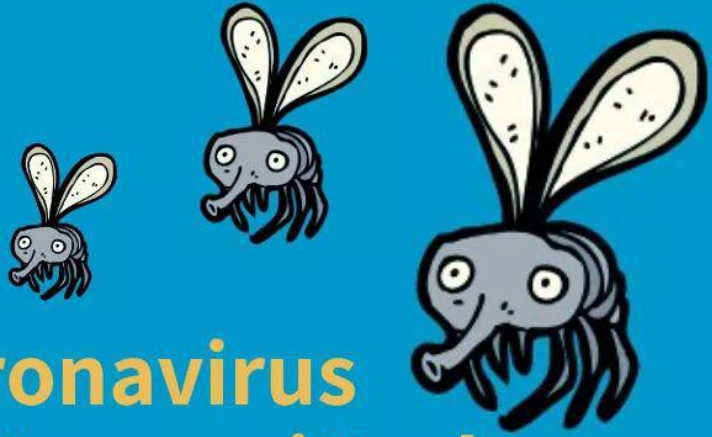


What type of disinfectant can I use to wipe down surfaces to protect against COVID-19?

If a surface is dirty, first wipe it down with regular household soap or detergent and rinse with water. Then use a regular household disinfectant like bleach – its active ingredient (sodium hypochlorite) kills bacteria, fungi and viruses. Always protect your hands when using bleach (e.g. wear rubber gloves). Dilute bleach with water according to directions on the package.



FACT:



The new coronavirus **CANNOT** be transmitted through mosquito bites

To date there has been no information nor evidence to suggest that the new coronavirus could be transmitted by mosquitoes.

The new coronavirus is a respiratory virus which spreads primarily through droplets generated when an infected person coughs or sneezes, or through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose. To protect yourself, clean your hands frequently with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water. Also, avoid close contact with anyone who is coughing and sneezing.



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What should I do if shops are sold out of hand sanitizer?

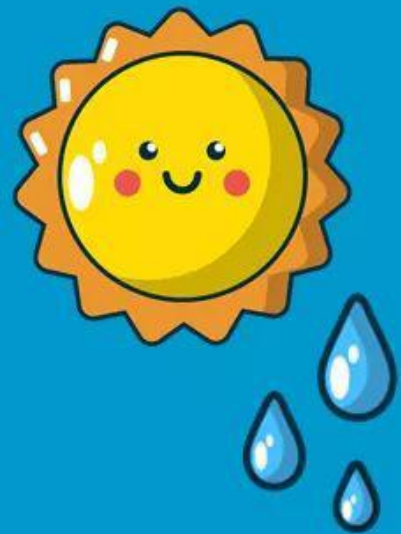
That's okay. **Washing your hands using regular soap and water is also effective against COVID-19.**

Remember to wash between your fingers, the backs of your hands and around your nails.



Can the new coronavirus (2019-nCoV) survive in hot and humid climates?

Yes, 2019-nCoV has spread to countries with both hot and humid climates, as well as cold and dry. Wherever you live, whatever the climate it is important to follow precautions. Wash your hands frequently and cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or a bent elbow. Throw the tissue in the bin and wash your hands immediately afterwards.



Can regularly rinsing your nose with saline help prevent infection with the new coronavirus (2019-nCoV)?

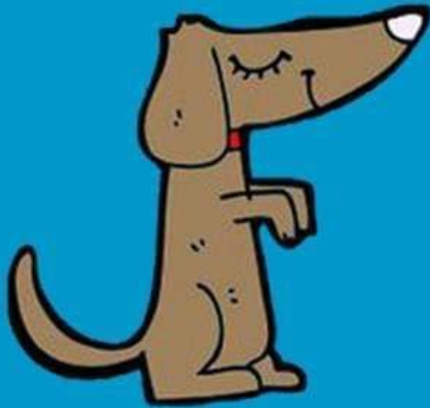


There is no evidence that regularly rinsing the nose with saline has protected people from infection with the new coronavirus (2019-nCoV). There is some limited evidence that regularly rinsing the nose with saline can help people recover more quickly from the common cold. However, regularly rinsing the nose has not been shown to prevent respiratory infections.

Are there any specific medicines to prevent or treat the new coronavirus?



To date, there is no specific medicine recommended to prevent or treat the new coronavirus (2019-nCoV). However, those infected with the virus should receive appropriate care to relieve and treat symptoms, and those with severe illness should receive optimized supportive care. Some specific treatments are under investigation, and will be tested through clinical trials. WHO is helping to accelerate research and development efforts with a range of partners.



Can pets at home spread the new coronavirus (2019-nCoV)?

At present, there is no evidence that companion animals / pets such as dogs or cats can be infected with the new coronavirus. However, it is always a good idea to wash your hands with soap and water after contact with pets. This protects you against various common bacteria such as E.coli and Salmonella that can pass between pets and humans.



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How do I ensure clothes and bedlinen don't spread novel coronavirus?

Don't carry dirty linen or clothes against your body. Wash them in hot water (between 60-90°C) with laundry detergent or soap. If available, add bleach. Follow the directions on the package. Machine dry on a high temperature or dry in direct sunlight.

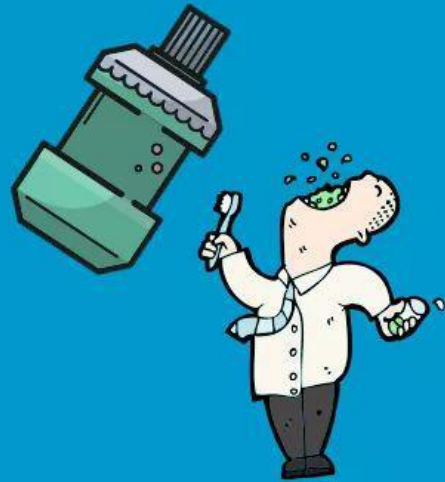


How effective are thermal scanners in detecting people infected with the new coronavirus (nCoV-2019)



Thermal scanners are effective in detecting people who have developed a fever (i.e. have a higher than normal body temperature) because of infection with the new coronavirus (nCoV-2019). However, they cannot detect people who are infected but are not yet sick with fever. This is because it takes between 2 and 10 days before people who are infected become sick and develop a fever.

Can gargling mouthwash protect you from infection with the new coronavirus (2019-nCoV)?



There is no evidence that using mouthwash will protect you from infection with the new coronavirus (2019-nCoV). Some brands of mouthwash can eliminate certain microbes for a few minutes in the saliva in your mouth. However, this does not mean they protect you from 2019-nCoV infection.

Can COVID-19 spread through faeces 🍌 ?



Like other coronaviruses, this virus can be found in faeces. But COVID-19 spreads primarily through close contact with an infected person or the droplets released when they sneeze or cough. To protect yourself wash your hands regularly – especially before preparing food or eating, after coughing or sneezing, before and after using the toilet and after changing a child's diaper.

Can an ultraviolet disinfection lamp kill the new coronavirus?



UV lamps should not be used to sterilize hands or other areas of skin as UV radiation can cause skin irritation.



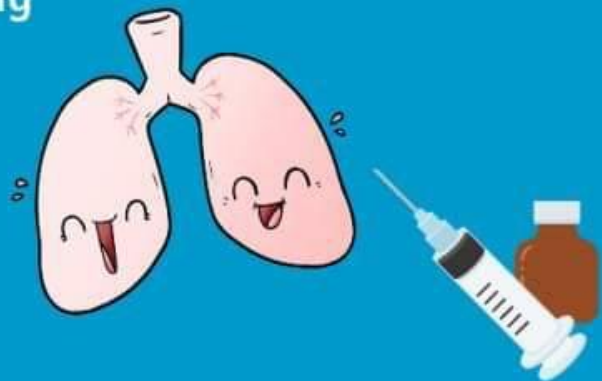
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No. Vaccines against pneumonia, such as pneumococcal vaccine and Haemophilus influenzae type B (Hib) vaccine, do not provide protection against the new coronavirus.

The virus is so new and different that it needs its own vaccine. Researchers are trying to develop a vaccine against 2019-nCoV, and WHO is supporting their efforts. Although these vaccines are not effective against 2019-nCoV, vaccination against respiratory illnesses is highly recommended to protect your health.

Do vaccines against pneumonia protect you against the new coronavirus?



Are hand dryers effective in killing the new coronavirus?

No. Hand dryers are not effective in killing the 2019-nCoV.

To protect yourself against the new coronavirus, you should frequently clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water. Once your hands are cleaned, you should dry them thoroughly by using paper towels or a warm air dryer.



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Are antibiotics effective in preventing and treating the new coronavirus?

No, antibiotics do not work against viruses, only bacteria.

The new coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is a virus and, therefore, antibiotics should not be used as means of prevention or treatment.

However, if you are hospitalized for the 2019-nCoV, you may receive antibiotics since bacterial co-infection is possible.