

Coronavirus (COVID-19; SARS-CoV-2)

What is coronavirus?

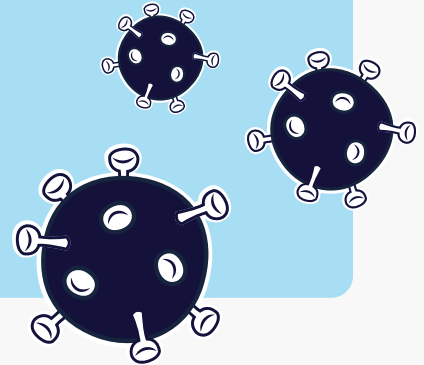
'COVID-19' is the official name for the disease caused by the coronavirus first described in late 2019. The name comes from **CO**rona**VI**rus **D**isease 20**19**.

The disease is caused by a virus named 'SARS-CoV-2' (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus 2), because of genetic similarities to the virus that caused SARS in 2003.

Previously it was known as '2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV).'

Most coronavirus infections are mild and self-limiting. However, some strains have caused major outbreaks:

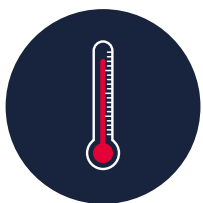
- MERS-CoV
- SARS-CoV
- SARS-CoV-2



The causes and symptoms

Most common symptoms:

Typically presents pneumonia-like symptoms (although some infected patients are asymptomatic).



Fever
(38°C and higher)



Cough



Difficulty breathing

It spreads from person to person

Like other coronaviruses, COVID-19 can be transmitted from person to person.



Contact



Droplets



Contaminated
surfaces

Coronaviruses contaminate surfaces

We know that human coronaviruses can be found in our everyday environments¹⁻³.

Infectious coronaviruses can persist on a surface up to **28 days**⁴.

It can be spread by unsuspecting healthcare personnel

Other coronavirus outbreaks (such as MERS-CoV) have been exacerbated by poor hygiene, infection prevention measures and asymptomatic transmission⁵.

What can we do?

We're learning lessons from previous coronavirus outbreaks such as SARS⁶ and MERS-CoV⁷. In patients where COVID-19 is suspected (respiratory tract symptoms with relevant history):



Isolate patients early and effectively⁸.

The quicker patients are isolated, the lower their chance of spreading coronavirus.



Use appropriate Personal Protective Equipment

when dealing with patients and carrying out environmental decontamination. Dispose of safely⁹.



Use a disposable tissue

when sneezing, coughing, wiping and blowing the nose. Bin it as soon as possible.



Practice good hand hygiene.

Especially before eating and preparing food and after coughing, sneezing or using tissues.



Decontaminate surfaces regularly¹⁰.

The whole area should be thoroughly cleaned, with all touchable surfaces disinfected at least once per day.

Protection from coronavirus

Clean your hands frequently. Our Clinell Antimicrobial Hand Wipes are:

- ✔ As effective as soap and water¹¹
- ✔ Compliant with EN14476
- ✔ In travel-sized packaging

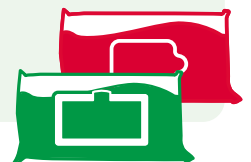
Proven effective
against coronavirus.



Make surfaces safe. Our Clinell Universal and Sporidical Wipes:

- ✔ Require no pre-cleaning
- ✔ Are compliant with EN14476
- ✔ Have a powerful disinfectant action

Proven effective
against coronavirus.



Acinetobacter baumannii | *Candida auris* | Coronavirus | *Escherichia coli* | MRSA | *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* | VRE
For full efficacy data, please visit www.gamahealthcare.com

All information here is based on information available as of 16th June 2020. For more up to the minute advice, please see your local infection prevention team or the latest national or international guidance.

WHO: www.who.int/westernpacific/emergencies/novel-coronavirus
CDC: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html
PHE: www.gov.uk/government/collections/wuhan-novel-coronavirus

References:

1. Bonny et al. Am J Infect Control. 2018;46(1):105-107.
2. Ikonen et al. BMC Infect Dis. 2018;18(1):1-7.
3. Memish et al. Am J Infect Control. 2014;42(12):1266-1269.
4. Casanova et al. Appl Environ Microbiol. 2010;76(9):2712-2717.
5. Alfaraj et al. Am J Infect Control. 2018;46(2):165-168.
6. Cheng et al. J Hosp Infect. 2020.
7. Willman et al. Viruses. 2019;11(12).
8. Kim et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2017;64(5):551-557.
9. Casanova. Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol. 2010;31(5):560-561.
10. Otter et al. J Hosp Infect. 2016;92(3):235-250.
11. Wilkinson et al. J Hosp Infect. 2018;98(4):339-344.