

FAQS about COVID-19

* Source of information is from the Ministry of Health & Prevention - UAE

1. What is COVID-19?

The Novel Coronavirus 2019 or COVID-19 is a new virus affecting the respiratory system

2. What are the signs that you might have contracted the virus?

The virus causes mild to severe respiratory illness, with symptoms such as fever, difficulty of breathing, cough, headache and sore throat. Pneumonia can also develop.

3. Is COVID-19 airborne?

The main mode of transmission is through close contact with respiratory droplets from an infected person and not through air as studies suggest. Another mode of transmission is the droplets infecting any surfaces and other people touching it and then touching their eyes, ears, nose and mouth.

4. Is there a cure to COVID-19?

To date, there is no cure or vaccine yet developed to combat the virus. However, experts have been recommending strengthening the immune system by leading a healthy lifestyle.

5. Who are the people who must get tested for the COVID-19?

COVID-19 testing is recommended for those who travelled overseas and began developing symptoms. People exposed to those suspected and or diagnosed positive with the virus are also advised to get checked.

6. Once infected, when will the symptoms first appear?

The symptoms usually develop within 2-14 days of contracting the virus. This is what is called as "incubation period" and varies from person to person.

7. Until when is the virus alive on surfaces?

There are factors affecting the livability of the virus on surfaces such as the type of surface (wood, metal, fabric, etc.) and the weather temperature. There have been studies suggesting that the virus could stay alive on

surfaces from several hours to several days. In order to stay safe, it is advisable to clean and sanitize surfaces with a disinfectant frequently.

8. Which sources and sites have the most reliable information on COVID-19?

To avoid reading (and spreading) fake information, refer to official sources only.

9. When could we consider an infected person no longer contagious?

Health professionals caring for people infected with the COVID-19 could determine if a patient is no longer contagious. If they are not showing any symptoms anymore and their test results became negative.

10. Where was COVID-19 first identified?

Patient zero for COVID-19 was first diagnosed in Wuhan, China who reportedly acquired the virus from an animal market suggesting that the virus came from an animal source.