# Coronavirus (COVID-19)

**Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a new illness that can affect your lungs and airways.**

**Symptoms of coronavirus**
**The symptoms of coronavirus are:**

- **a cough**
- **a high temperature**
- **shortness of breath**
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**But these symptoms do not necessarily mean you have the illness. The symptoms are similar to other illnesses that are much more common, such as cold and flu.**

**Call 111 now if you've been:**

- to Hubei province in China in the last 14 days
- to Iran, areas of northern Italy in lockdown or "special care zone" areas in South Korea since 19 February
- to other parts of mainland China or South Korea, Thailand, Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia or Macau in the last 14 days and have a cough, high temperature or shortness of breath
- to other parts of northern Italy (anywhere north of Pisa, Florence and Rimini), Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos or Myanmar since 19 February and have a cough, high temperature or shortness of breath
- in close contact with someone with confirmed coronavirus

# Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital. Call 111, stay indoors and avoid close contact with other people.

**How to avoid catching or spreading germs**

There are things you can do to help stop viruses like coronavirus spreading.

**Do**

- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze

- put used tissues in the bin immediately

- wash your hands with soap and water often – use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available

- try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell

**Don't**

- do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean


**Treatment for coronavirus**

There is currently no specific treatment for coronavirus.

Antibiotics do not help, as they do not work against viruses.

Treatment aims to relieve the symptoms while your body fights the illness.

You'll need to stay in isolation away from other people until you've recovered.


**Further information**

- [NHS: answers to common questions about coronavirus](#)
- [GOV.UK information on coronavirus and the situation in the UK](#)
- [GOV.UK foreign travel advice](#)