

Factsheet for Northern Ireland Coronavirus (COVID-19)



New measures have been introduced to help prevent the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) and save lives.

Stay at home

- ✓ **Only go outside for food, medicine or medical equipment, one form of exercise or work** (if essential)
- ✓ **Stay 2 metres (6ft) away** from other people.
- ✓ **Wash your hands** as soon as you get home.

Keep your Distance

- ✓ **Social distancing will help reduce** the transmission of coronavirus by reducing the social interaction between people.
- ✓ **Avoid contact with someone who is displaying** symptoms of coronavirus - **these symptoms include high temperature and/or new and continuous cough.**
- ✓ **Keep in touch using remote technology** such as phone, internet, and social media.
- ✓ **Use telephone or online services to contact your GP** or other essential services.
- ✓ **Information for business and venues - <https://bit.ly/2wxxRLf>**

COVID-19 Assessment Centres

New centres are being set up to help assess people suspected of having coronavirus.

GPs will assess those with symptoms and the most seriously ill will be transferred to specialist wards.

Read more -www.bit.ly/2vRbqAf

- These are **not** Covid-19 testing centres.
- **Do not visit** unless you have been referred to attend by your GP or GP out of Hours Centre.
- These centres are **only** for patients who are very unwell and who are suspected of having Covid-19.
- Patients referred to a Covid-19 Centre will be asked to put on a mask.

Protecting 'at risk' patients

Those with **underlying health conditions which put them at higher risk** of severe illness if they contract coronavirus must stay at home to protect themselves. **This is called shielding** and helps protect extremely vulnerable people by minimising their contact with others. **GPs will soon be writing to around 40,000 people in Northern Ireland** who are most at risk to provide them with more detailed advice.

Community Pharmacy

Community pharmacies are now open at different hours. They will open at 10am and close between 1pm and 2pm to help staff take a break, do a deep clean and restock supplies.

- ✓ **Only order medicines you need.**
- ✓ **Don't use or order any medicines that you haven't been prescribed.**
- ✓ **Allow extra time** to get your prescription.
- ✓ Medicines are being continually replenished, **there is no need to stockpile.**
- ✓ Be patient and kind to all staff.

Reshaping services to help you

Everyone in health and social care is working very hard to help stop the spread of the virus and care for those who are ill.

To help us do this we are reshaping services and changing the way we work.

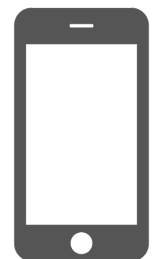
These include:

- **Prioritising the most vulnerable patients**
- **Reshaping hospital services**
- **Discharging medically fit patients**
- **Ending all general hospital visits - with some exceptions**
- **Closing all adult day services**
- **Increasing tests for the virus**
- **Providing more personal protection equipment and ventilators**
- **Private hospitals will be helping to deal with the impact of the pandemic**

Read more: www.bit.ly/2UJKb34

COVID-19 App

- A new mobile app has been developed to advise the public on coronavirus symptoms and treatment.
- **Read more: www.bit.ly/3aDcfff**



For the latest information and advice

www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus

www.nidirect.gov.uk/campaigns/coronavirus-covid-19

www.hscboard.hscni.net/coronavirus

www.gov.uk/coronavirus