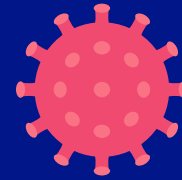


COVID-19 (Coronavirus)



Guidance for Rooming Houses

This guidance is for owners/managers of premises where persons with no family connection share accommodation and/or facilities

What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is the infectious disease caused by the most recently-discovered coronavirus. Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses which may cause illness in animals or humans. In humans, several coronaviruses are known to cause respiratory infections ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are:

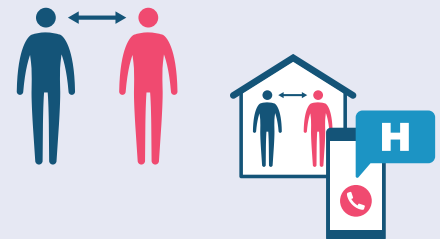
- Fever
- Tiredness
- Dry cough

Some people may have aches and pains, nasal congestion, runny nose, sore throat or diarrhea. These symptoms are usually mild and begin gradually. Some people become infected but don't develop any symptoms and don't feel unwell.

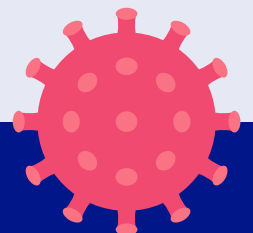
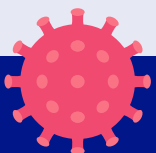
General Considerations

People should:

- Wash hands thoroughly and regularly
- Practice social distancing as much as possible—maintain at least two metres (six feet) of separation between yourself and other people
- If showing symptoms, isolate yourself and phone your doctor. Do not turn up at the doctor's surgery/clinic without ringing beforehand



Stay informed on the latest developments about COVID-19 by visiting the Government of Bermuda's website coronavirus.gov.bm



COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

As an owner/manager of a rooming house you should:

- pay close attention to the health of individuals using your accommodation
- put in place quarantine facilities for anyone sick or particularly vulnerable or under mandatory quarantine (i.e. a separate room, door closed, food delivered to the room, etc)

Special Considerations for Rooming Houses

Due to the large number of people living in close quarters with each other, the risk of spreading the virus is significant. Therefore, the following provisions should be in place to prevent the spread of infection:

- No sharing of beds, also known as 'hot-bedding'
- No sharing of personal items such as towels, toothbrushes, washcloths or bed linen
- If rooms are shared, separate beds by at least six feet if possible
- Limit the time in shared spaces
- Clean and sanitise all common touch points (door handles, counters, phones, utensils, shared kitchen and bathroom facilities etc) regularly
- Ventilate rooms well by opening windows or increasing air conditioning
- Enhance precautions if anyone in the home is at particular risk (seniors or those with significant underlying conditions)
- Where isolation is difficult or not possible, contact the government helpline and inquire about the possibility of moving to a government quarantine facility
- Please note all dwellings must comply with the Public Health Act 1949 as it pertains to overcrowding and rooming houses. Similarly, multiple dwelling units must comply with regulation(s) 9-14 of the Bermuda Housing (Minimum Standards) Regulations 2002 regarding ventilation, sanitary accommodations and potable water requirements etc.

If you require further information, please contact:

Environmental Health: 278-5333

Web: www.gov.bm/coronavirus

COVID19 Hotline: 444-2498

