

# CORONAVIRUS: MYTHS VS. FACTS



With all the information available about Coronavirus (COVID-19), it's important to separate fact from fiction.

**MYTH: I can catch the virus at a hospital.**

FACT: Hospitals and clinics are working hard to make sure all patients are safe, including disinfecting, physical distancing, face masks, and personal hygiene.

**MYTH: I will not be seen in the emergency room.**

FACT: If you have symptoms of COVID-19 and want to get tested, call your doctor first. They will tell you what to do. If you have trouble breathing, or have any other emergency warning signs, call 911 immediately.

**MYTH: If I get COVID-19, I will have it for life.**

FACT: Most people who get COVID-19 recover and the virus is no longer in the body.

**MYTH: Younger people and children are carriers of COVID-19 and they don't get sick.**

FACTS: People of all ages can get COVID-19. The risk of getting COVID-19 increases with age, and people with pre-existing medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease) are more vulnerable to getting sick, but children and adults have also gotten COVID-19.

**MYTH: If I take a bath in or drink bleach, household cleaners, or rubbing alcohol, I won't get COVID-19.**

FACT: Disinfectants, bleach, and soap and water are used to clean surfaces and should never be swallowed or injected into the body. These products are extremely toxic. Call 911 if this occurs. While hand sanitizers do have alcohol, they are made to be safe for use on hands.

**MYTH: The numbers of cases in my area are low, so I don't have to worry.**

FACT: With limited testing available, the number of infected people is likely much higher than the number of cases being reported. Remember that people can spread COVID-19 for up to 14 days before experiencing symptoms, so make sure you follow hygiene and social distancing recommendations to protect yourself and those around you.

**MYTH: Warm weather and heat can kill COVID-19.**

FACTS: You can get COVID-19 no matter how warm the weather is. Also, drinking hot liquids won't prevent COVID-19. Make sure you wash your hands frequently, maintain a 6 foot distance from other people and wear a cloth face covering.

**MYTH: Only African Americans, Hispanics and Asians get COVID-19.**

FACT: COVID-19 can make anyone sick regardless of their age, race or ethnicity. The risk of getting sick increases with age and people with pre-existing medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease) appear to be more vulnerable to getting sick.