Coronavirus COVID-19

To slow the spread of coronavirus vulnerable people are being asked to cocoon
For people most at risk, we are giving special advice called **cocooning**.

Who should cocoon?
- Everyone aged 70 or over
- Everyone living in a residential home or long-term care
- People who have serious medical conditions that make them vulnerable, like:
  - organ transplant recipients, people with certain types of cancer (check with your GP or on www.hse.ie), severe respiratory conditions, rare diseases that increase the risk of infections, pregnant women who have significant heart disease.

What does cocooning mean?
It means you should stay at home at all times and avoid face-to-face contact, except to take a short walk for exercise every day. Family, carers, neighbours and our public services will help ensure you have the support you need.

Do
- Stay at home at all times, except to take a short walk for exercise every day
- Arrange for food or medication deliveries to be left at the door
- If you have a garden or balcony, spend time outside for fresh air
- Keep in touch with people over the phone or online if you have access
- Keep yourself mobile by getting up and moving as much as possible
- Try to spend time doing things you enjoy indoors

Don’t
- Go outside your home and garden, except to take a short walk for exercise every day
- Have visitors to your home, except for essential carers

Going for a short walk
- Keep at least 2 metres (6 feet) away from other people while outside
- When out for a walk, avoid physical contact with people
- Don’t touch surfaces with your hands
- Clean your hands after you get home
- If you are living in a residential care facility, talk to your carer about what is safe for you.
- If you are worried, speak to your GP

If you live with a person who needs to be cocooned
Even though it is hard, try to stay 1 metre apart from vulnerable people in your home.

Supporting those who are cocooning when they are outside their home
- Keep at a distance
- Allow everyone space for walking
- Avoid physical contact such as shaking hands

Where can I get help?
- The Government is arranging for each county council or local authority to set up supports for access to food, essential household supplies and medicines
- ALONE is providing a telephone support line, seven days a week from 8am – 8pm 0818 222 024
- You can contact HSE Live 1850 24 1850 for information and advice on health services
- For factual, updated information on coronavirus, go to hse.ie

Every person needs to follow these 6 key steps to prevent coronavirus

**Stop**
- Shaking hands or hugging when saying hello or greeting other people

**Distance**
- Yourself at least 2 metres (6 feet) away from other people, especially those who might be unwell

**Wash**
- Your hands well and often to avoid contamination

**Cover**
- Your mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing and discard used tissue

**Avoid**
- Touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands

**Clean**
- And disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

Protection from coronavirus. It’s in our hands.

For Daily Updates Visit
www.gov.ie/health-covid-19
www.hse.ie

Ireland’s public health advice is guided by **WHO** and **ECDC** advice