COVID-19 Coronavirus: Information for Travelers to Philadelphia

The Philadelphia Department of Public Health recommends the following actions for visitors to Philadelphia who may become ill during their visits.

People who have fever, cough, or difficulty breathing and have a known or suspected exposure to COVID-19 coronavirus should isolate by remaining in their hotel room away from other people and not attending events and mass gatherings.

For the general public for whom the risk of exposure is currently low:

- People who have no symptoms but are concerned about being exposed to COVID-19 coronavirus do not need to contact a healthcare provider. They should stay away from people who are sick, wash their hands frequently, avoid touching their face, and watch for any symptoms suggesting a respiratory illness.

- A person who has mild symptoms (like a fever under 101 degrees F, or cough) and would typically use over-the-counter medications to treat them should do that while monitoring their symptoms. They should not attend events, participate in social gatherings, or interact with others.

- A person who has more serious symptoms (like a fever greater than 101 degrees F or persistent fever, difficulty breathing, symptoms lasting longer than 72 hours, and suspected dehydration) should call their regular healthcare provider. If the person does not have a local provider, they should call a local urgent care center or minute clinic.

- A person who is severely ill and requires immediate medical attention should call 911. The person at 911 will ask about if the person who is sick has traveled recently.

Some people have a higher risk of exposure to COVID-19 coronavirus:

- Certain people have a higher risk of catching COVID-19 coronavirus. If these people have symptoms of respiratory infection, they should be evaluated by a healthcare provider and samples should be collected for COVID-19 coronavirus testing. They should call ahead to make sure the provider is ready to receive them. People in this group include:
  - Travelers from affected international locations where community spread of COVID-19 coronavirus is occurring: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html
  - Healthcare workers caring for patients with COVID-19 coronavirus
  - Close contacts of people who have COVID-19 coronavirus, especially household contacts

- People who need to see a doctor due to more severe symptoms but who are from out of town, should contact a local urgent care or minute clinic. The Health Department recommends calling ahead. The Health Department will work with the healthcare provider to coordinate testing.

- People who are very ill and require immediate medical attention should call 911.

For more information about risk and symptoms, please see: https://www.phila.gov/services/mental-physical-health/environmental-health-hazards/covid-19/could-i-have-covid-19/

Department of
Public Health
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

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