Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)
Patient information

What is a coronavirus?
Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that cause illnesses ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

What is Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)?
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is closely monitoring the outbreak caused by COVID-19. For the latest information about COVID-19, visit the CDC website at **CDC.gov/Coronavirus**

How are coronaviruses spread?
Coronaviruses can be transmitted from person-to-person, usually after close contact with an infected person (for example, in a household, workplace, or healthcare setting), via droplets that become airborne after a cough or sneeze. These droplets can then infect a nearby person. Transmission can also occur by touching recently contaminated surfaces.

Is there a treatment for COVID-19?
There is no specific treatment for disease caused by COVID-19. However, many of the symptoms can be treated based on the patient's clinical condition. Supportive care for infected persons can be highly effective.

What are the symptoms of coronavirus infection?
It depends on the virus, but common signs include fever and/or respiratory symptoms such as cough and shortness of breath. In more severe cases, infection can cause pneumonia, severe acute respiratory syndrome, kidney failure and even death.

What can I do to protect myself?
The best precautionary measures:
  – washing your hands
  – covering your cough
  – disinfecting surfaces
  – it is also advisable to avoid close contact with anyone showing symptoms of respiratory illness such as coughing and sneezing
  – those with symptoms should wear a surgical mask when around others

What can I do to protect those around me?
If you have been identified as someone who may be infected with COVID-19, we recommend you follow the steps outlined at **CDC.gov/Coronavirus** to protect those around you and to limit the spread of this virus.

Northwell Health®

307050a_3_2020