There's a lot in the news lately about coronavirus and COVID-19. Here's some information you can use to help protect yourself and the people you care about.

### About coronavirus COVID-19

**What is coronavirus and COVID-19?**

Coronavirus is a type of virus that causes respiratory illness — an infection of the airways and lungs. COVID-19 is a new strain of coronavirus. It’s part of the same family of coronaviruses that includes the common cold.

**What are the symptoms?**

The most common early symptoms appear between 2 and 14 days after infection. Symptoms can be mild to severe. They include fever, cough, and shortness of breath.

**How does the virus spread?**

Like many other viruses, coronavirus seems to spread from person-to-person through a cough, sneeze, or kiss.

### How to protect yourself

Frequent hand-washing is the most effective way to protect yourself from infection. Other good habits to practice include covering your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough and sneeze, and cleaning frequently touched items such as phones, keyboards, and doorknobs to help remove germs.

### What your Anthem benefits will cover

Your Anthem health plan will cover the care you receive if you’re diagnosed as having COVID-19. Anthem will also waive out-of-pocket expenses for the focused test used to diagnose COVID-19 for fully insured, Individual, Medicare, and Medicaid members. You can call the number on your ID card to confirm coverage. You will pay any other out-of-pocket expenses the plan requires, unless otherwise determined by state law or regulation.

### What to do if you have symptoms

Call your doctor if you develop a fever, have a cough, or have difficulty breathing. And let them know if you’ve been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19, or if you live in or have recently traveled to an area where the virus has spread. You can also check to see if your plan offers telehealth benefits to see a doctor online. If you think you’re infected, using telehealth helps to prevent spreading a virus.

### How do I make sure I have enough of my medication?

It’s important to keep taking your medications, so if your Anthem pharmacy plan includes a 90-day benefit, this is a great time to think about changing from a 30-day supply to a 90-day supply for prescriptions you take on a regular basis. If you don’t have a prescription for a 90-day supply, talk to your doctor to see if a 90-day supply would work for you.