## Coronavirus - 10 tips for caregivers of elderly people

- The infection produces **symptoms** similar to those of a common cold or flu (such as cough or fever, but also diarrhea, tiredness, difficult breathing). Check often for temperature and consult your doctor by phone if symptoms show up.
- The virus can infect us through the droplets of saliva that move in the air and settle everywhere, if they reach the mouth, nose or eyes. Make people respect the distance of at least one metre from the elderly person.
- Get out as little as possible: order what you need (including medicine) by phone, use home delivery services and ask the family members for help.
- When you go out, keep at least one metre away from other people, use the mask, do not touch your face, wash or disinfect your hands as soon as you return home.
- You need to be near, touch or touch things handed by the elderly person: always wash your hands before and after, and use the surgical mask.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water or alcohol-based gel. Help the elderly person to do the same.
- Clean the house daily. Use alcohol or bleach for surfaces that are touched more frequently. Open windows often to change the air in the rooms.
- If you or the elderly person show symptoms of infection, do not go to the doctor: call him on the phone, and if you cannot speak to him or her, call the emergency numbers.
- Reassure the elderly person: explain well, calmly and simply, what is happening; help him or her to follow the rules for hygiene; reassure him or her that later he or she will be able to resume a normal life.
- Stay calm, active and healthy, and in contact with your family and friends; do things you like, and exercise; be sure of getting enough sleep; eat healthy foods; let the sunlight enter the house.





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