What You Need to Know
COVID-19, also known as Coronavirus, is a serious illness spreading around the world. There are ways you can stay healthy and keep it from spreading to other people. Keep reading this page to learn what you can do to stay healthy.

What is COVID-19?
COVID-19 is an illness that spreads to other people easily. The common symptoms are fever, difficult breathing, and cough. For many people it is like getting a bad cold or the flu but some people can get very sick and end up in the hospital.

How do I Avoid Getting Sick?

1. Stay at home if you can. Leave your house only when necessary.

2. Do not travel or go into crowded places.

3. If you have to go out, keep your distance from other people – at least 6 feet away if you can.

4. Wash your hands a lot with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds.

5. Cough into a tissue or your elbow. Put tissues in the garbage right away and wash your hands.

6. Do not touch your face, especially your eyes, nose, and mouth.

7. Do not share food or drinks with anyone.

8. Wash down places you touch often.

9. Stay away from people who are sick.

10. Wear a mask when leaving your home to stop the spread of the virus.

Coronavirus: Tips for Staying Healthy: Video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V7Yl-BesvDw
What Do I Do If I Get Sick?

If you get sick, do not go into the doctor’s office, clinic or hospital. Call your clinic or hospital first and follow their instructions. Do not go to work or leave the house. If you live with other people, you should:

- Try to stay in a separate room or stay at least 6 feet apart from them.
- Wash your hands and clean the places you touch a lot. They should wash their hands a lot too, keep their distance and not touch their nose, mouth or eyes.
- Do not share food or drinks.

What do I do if I need help?

Check out the resources in the Stay Safe section of this toolkit to learn about your rights and how to stay safe.

Stay Healthy Resources for Self-Advocates and Caregivers:

- Coronavirus: Tips for Staying Healthy: Video [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V7Yl-BesvDw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V7Yl-BesvDw)
- How to Stay Safe Info Graphic: Stay Healthy Info Graphic WI.pdf
- Information on Coronavirus for Caregivers: [https://nadsp.org/covid-19resources/](https://nadsp.org/covid-19resources/)
- Wisconsin Department of Health Services COVID-19 information webpage: [https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm](https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm)
- How to make a mask at home: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=8&v=tPx1yqvJgf4&feature=emb_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=8&v=tPx1yqvJgf4&feature=emb_logo)
How To Stay Healthy

Do not touch your face

Do not shake hands

Wash hands for 20 seconds

Do not share food or drinks

HELPFUL TIPS

- Stay at home if you can. Leave only if necessary.
- Cover your mouth with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing.
- Put tissues in the garbage right away and wash your hands.
- Clean items around you like doorknobs, tables, and phones.
- Wear a mask when leaving your home.

If you get sick:

- Stay home.
- Do not go into the doctor’s office, clinic or hospital.
- Call your clinic or hospital first and follow their instructions.

For more information on how to stay healthy, safe and connected visit:
https://wi-bpdd.org/index.php/living-well/
People have the virus for 1 to 14 days before they feel sick. The most common symptoms are fever, tiredness, and dry cough. Most people (about 80%) get better without needing special treatment.

**1 - What can you do now**

- Make a folder with important information, including:
  - The attached Health Summary for People with Disabilities form
  - Your Power of Attorney for Health Care or other decision-making documents
  - Anything else your doctors and nurses need to know about you

- Find out what hospitals are near you or what hospitals take your insurance or Medicaid.

- Call the hospital(s) in your plan to ask what their triage policy is. A triage policy spells out how the hospital decides who to treat first.

- If you need accommodations (to help you communicate or understand information for example), ask the hospital if you can request these and include them in your medical record.

- If you need someone with you at the hospital, ask your hospital(s) if this is allowed. Make a plan with the person who you want to be with you.

- Talk to the people who support you to make other plans you will need if you become sick or need to go to the hospital (for example pet care or childcare).

**2 - If you start to feel sick**

- CALL YOUR DOCTOR. DO NOT GO TO THE HOSPITAL UNLESS THEY TELL YOU TO.

- Follow the instructions from your doctor or nurse.

- If you live with other people, try to stay in a room by yourself.

- Wash your hands and surfaces you touch a lot.

- Use a homemade face mask when you are around other people. Try to stay at least 6 feet apart from them.

- Make sure you tell your doctor and the people who support you about how you are feeling and if you start to feel worse.

**3 - If you need to go to the hospital**

- Bring the folder with your important health care information.

- Bring a bag of things you need (Identification Card (ID), medical bracelet, communication device, change of clothes, phone and charger, other important supplies).

- Ask the hospital or emergency medical person if someone you trust can come with you.

Be sure your Power of Attorney for Health Care Form is updated. If you don’t have a Power of Attorney for Health Care you can find the form at: www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/forms/advdirectivesadformspoa.htm
**Words to Know**

**Pandemic:** A sickness that effects many countries at the same time and spreads quickly.

**Social Distancing:** Staying at least six feet or more away from people and not going out except for essentials so that you don’t come into contact with someone who has the virus.

**Safer at Home:** Not going to work, school, or activities and only leaving for essential items like groceries or medications.

**Quarantine:** When you stay away from as many people as possible because you have the virus and you don’t want to give it to anyone else.

**Virus:** A type of sickness that can go away on its own or sometimes require special treatment from a doctor. COVID-19 is a virus that effects the lungs. Most people who get it recover without needing special treatment.

**Symptoms:** The changes to your body that tell you that you are fighting the virus. COVID-19 symptoms include a dry cough, a fever, and tiredness.

**Accommodations:** Things the hospital, doctors, and nurses can do to help you get the care you need while you are sick.

**Health Summary Form:** Information to share with the doctors and nurses about how you are feeling and how you communicate best.

**Triage Policy:** How a hospital decides who needs care first.

**Power of Attorney for Health Care:** A form you fill out to give someone you trust the power to make health care decisions for you if you are not able to.

**Emergency Medical Person:** Can be a doctor, nurse, EMT, or other healthcare person who is helping with your sickness.

**Electronic Medical Record:** Information about you and your past medical care that is stored on a computer and can be shared with the people helping you when you are sick.

**Ventilator:** A medical device that helps you breathe. Most people who get COVID-19 do not need a ventilator and get better on their own.

You can always get more information about COVID-19 at the DHS website: [https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm](https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm)
# Health Summary for People with Disabilities

## Possible Case of COVID-19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name:</th>
<th>Middle Initial:</th>
<th>Last Name:</th>
<th>DOB or Age:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emergency Contact:</th>
<th>Phone Number:</th>
<th>Relationship:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

PERSON HAS A SUPPORTED DECISION MAKING DESIGNEE or GUARDIAN

[ ] YES [ ] NO

PERSON HAS A LIVING WILL/POWER of ATTORNEY of HEALTHCARE

[ ] YES [ ] NO

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address:</th>
<th>City, State, ZIP:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</table>

Name of Family Member/Supporter/Guardian:  
Family Member/Supporter/Guardian Phone/Email:

Name of Caregiver/Support Professional:  
Caregiver/Support Professional Phone:

Managed Care Organization (MCO) Care Manager Consultant:  
MCO Care Manager Phone/Email:

## CURRENT SYMPTOMS / RISK FACTORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COVID-19 Symptoms:</th>
<th>When Did it Start?</th>
<th>Patient’s COVID-19 Severity Risk Factors (check all that apply):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Temp. Over 100°F</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hypertension  [ ] Diabetes  [ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cough</td>
<td></td>
<td>Immunocompromised  [ ] Other:  [ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatigue</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cancer  [ ] Other:  [ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shortness of Breath</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chronic Lung Disease  [ ] Other:  [ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sore Throat</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chronic Kidney Disease  [ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diarrhea</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chronic Liver Disease  [ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muscles Aches</td>
<td></td>
<td>Seizure Disorder  [ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chills</td>
<td></td>
<td>Heart Disease  [ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headache</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hypertension  [ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nausea</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bowel Disease  [ ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## MEDICATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medication:</th>
<th>Dosage/Frequency:</th>
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## ALLERGIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To What:</th>
<th>Symptoms of Allergy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Latex Allergy:</td>
<td>Yes  [ ] No  [ ]</td>
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### Important Information to Know About Me

I am a person with a disability. I am showing signs of COVID-10 infection. If I cannot communicate with you and my family or my caregiver is not with me, these are some important things to know about me.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACCOMMODATIONS:</th>
<th>SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Interpreter</td>
<td>Manual Wheelchair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASL Interpreter</td>
<td>Power Wheelchair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Assistant</td>
<td>Walker/Cane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Device</td>
<td>Hearing Aids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Animal</td>
<td>Communication Device</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra time to understand</td>
<td>CPAP/BI-PAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read to me</td>
<td>Other:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple Language</td>
<td>Other:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other:</td>
<td>Other:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other:</td>
<td>Other:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PATIENT’S SELF EXPRESSION, LIKES, AND DISLIKES:

I express myself by:

I calm myself by:

When I’m happy, I:

When I’m sad, I:

When I’m scared, I:

When I’m angry, I:

My likes:

My dislikes:

I have a sensitivity to touch. [ ] Yes [ ] No  Notes:

I have a mask sensitivity. [ ] Yes [ ] No  Notes:

Additional Notes: