



Support Services for Older Adults

COVID-19 Dictionary

asymptomatic	have an illness with no symptoms
contagious	disease spreading from one person to another
Coronavirus	a type of virus that causes the flu and colds
COVID-19	type of coronavirus discovered in 2019 CO rona VI rus D isease 20 19
case	each person who is counted as being sick ("there are 3 cases of COVID-19 today")
crisis	a sudden major problem
diagnose	to identify an illness
essential worker	extremely important workers - like in hospitals and grocery stores, driving buses and making sure hydro, water and phones are all working
flatten the curve	to reduce the sudden impact on the health care system
front line worker	the most important people, like doctors, nurses and first responders (ambulance, police, firefighters), who have to work directly with sick people every day (on the front line)
healthcare system capacity	healthcare system = hospital and related areas capacity = the total number of people that the hospital can handle at one time
hot spot	an area that has a high number of cases of COVID-19
hunker down	to stay in one place for a while
incubation period	the time between catching something and first showing symptoms. The incubation period for COVID-19 is 2-14 days
outbreak	a sudden increase



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pandemic	an outbreak of a new disease that spreads over a large area, or the entire world
PPE	Personal Protection Equipment Masks, gowns, gloves, goggles and other equipment worn to keep frontline and essential workers safe
Public Health	Government department responsible for community health
Public Health Order	a rule that the government puts in place to help get rid of the pandemic
recover	to get better
vaccine	medicine injected to protect against disease
ventilator	a medical device that helps a sick person's lungs work
virus	infection that causes disease
vulnerable	more likely to experience harm than others