

**WHO MythBusters:** In an effort to combat misinformation, the World Health Organization created several infographics regarding frequently asked questions about the 2019 Novel Coronavirus. We encourage you to share these across your network to help set the record straight about COVID-19.

Yes, it is safe. People receiving packages from China are not at risk of contracting the new coronavirus.

From previous analysis, we know coronaviruses do not survive long on objects, such as letters or packages.

Is it safe to receive a letter or a package from China?



#2019nCoV

To date, there is no specific medicine recommended to prevent or treat the new coronavirus (2019-nCoV).

However, those infected with the virus should receive appropriate care to relieve and treat symptoms, and those with severe illness should receive optimized supportive care. Some specific treatments are under investigation, and will be tested through clinical trials.

WHO is helping to accelerate research and development efforts with a range of partners.

Are there any specific medicines to prevent or treat the new coronavirus?



#Coronavirus

No. Vaccines against pneumonia, such as pneumococcal vaccine and Haemophilus influenza type B (Hib) vaccine, do not provide protection against the new coronavirus.

The virus is so new and different that it needs its own vaccine. Researchers are trying to develop a vaccine against 2019-nCoV, and WHO is supporting their efforts.

Although these vaccines are not effective against 2019-nCoV, vaccination against respiratory illnesses is highly recommended to protect your health.

## Do vaccines against pneumonia protect you against the new coronavirus?



#2019nCoV

No. There is no evidence that using mouthwash will protect you from infection with the new coronavirus.

Some brands of mouthwash can eliminate certain microbes for a few minutes in the saliva in your mouth. However, this does not mean they protect you from 2019-nCoV infection.

## Can gargling mouthwash protect you from infection with the new coronavirus?



#2019nCoV

People of all ages can be infected by the new coronavirus (nCoV-2019).

Older people, and people with pre-existing medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease) appear to be more vulnerable to becoming severely ill with the virus.

WHO advise people of all age to take steps to protect themselves from the virus, for example by following good hand hygiene and good respiratory hygiene.

# Does the new coronavirus affect older people, or are younger people also susceptible?



#Coronavirus

No, antibiotics do not work against viruses, only bacteria.

The new coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is a virus and, therefore, antibiotics should not be used as a means of prevention or treatment.

However, if you are hospitalized for the 2019-nCoV, you may receive antibiotics since bacterial co-infection is possible.

# Are antibiotics effective in preventing and treating the new coronavirus?



#Coronavirus