

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)



For additional information:

coronavirus.ohio.gov
1-833-4-ASK-ODH / 1-833-427-5634
Ohio Department of Health
Coronavirus Call Center
9 a.m. – 8 p.m. daily

Caregiver Checklist #2: Dementia Care

People with moderate to severe dementia or another cognitive impairment often need special care. This can create more challenges for families and caregivers. COVID-19 may worsen cognitive impairment due to dementia.

- For people living with dementia, increased confusion is often the first symptom of an illness. If a person living with dementia shows increased confusion, call the doctor.
- People with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias may forget to wash their hands or take other important steps to prevent the spread of diseases, including COVID-19. It may help to provide written reminders or show your loved one how to wash their hands.
- If the person with dementia is unable to wash their hands, alcohol-based hand sanitizer, with at least 60% alcohol, can be used.
- Talk to your doctor or pharmacist about filling prescriptions for a greater number of days to limit your trips to the pharmacy.
- Think ahead and make other plans for the person with dementia if adult day care, respite, or other services are changed or cancelled.
- Think ahead and make others plans for care for your loved one if you become sick.

Additional Resources:

- View our other caregiver tip sheets on self-care and helping older adults at www.age.ohio.gov
- Alzheimer's Association: [https://www.alz.org/help-support/caregiving/coronavirus-\(covid-19\)-tips-for-dementia-care](https://www.alz.org/help-support/caregiving/coronavirus-(covid-19)-tips-for-dementia-care)
- Family Caregiver Alliance: <https://www.caregiver.org/caring-adults-cognitive-and-memory-impairment>