



Erie County  
Department of  
Health



Public Health  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

# COVID-19 FAQs

# Information for COUNTY RESIDENTS

**Q: What is a Persons Under Investigation (PUI)?**

**A:** PUI is a person that has met specific criteria set by the CDC and is being monitored for disease.

**Q: What is the difference between isolation and quarantine?**

First, both Isolation and Quarantine are similar in that they are both imposed to limit the spread of communicable disease. The differences are as follows.

Isolation	Quarantine
To separate ill persons who have a communicable disease from those who do not have that disease	To separate and restrict the movement of well persons who may have been exposed to a communicable disease
Restricts the movement of ill persons to help stop the spread of certain diseases	Monitor to see if they become ill
Example: Isolation for patients with infectious tuberculosis (TB)	These people may have been exposed to a disease and do not know it, or they may have the disease but do not show symptoms
There is no such thing as "self-isolation" or "self-quarantine". Both of these tactics are imposed and enforced by the Erie County Department of Health.	
Source: <a href="https://www.hhs.gov">hhs.gov</a>	

**What cleaning products should I use?**

You should use whatever antimicrobial products you use for your regular routine environmental cleaning. Ensure that they are EPA-registered and use according to the directions on the label.

**Additional tips:**

- Thoroughly and routinely clean frequently touched surfaces such as doorknobs, light switches, countertops, water fountains, etc. with the cleaners typically used.
- Use disposable wipes to wipe frequently touched surfaces (e.g., keyboards, desks, remote controls).

**What should I do about travel plans?**

This is a rapidly changing situation. Currently, the ECDOH is quarantining individuals for up to 14 days who travel from countries designated by the CDC as "Level 3." Individuals who have travel plans outside the United States should consult the CDC web site for the most recent guidance. Travelers who return from a Level 3 country at this time should contact our Office of Epidemiology at (716) 858-7697.

**Where can I find further information?**

Use reliable, fact-based sources when seeking out information about COVID-19 and other public health topics. We recommend:

- Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH): [erie.gov/covid19](https://erie.gov/covid19)
- New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH): [health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/](https://health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [cdc.gov/coronavirus/](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus/)