

Medically Fragile Children in the Home and Preventing Spread of COVID-19

Action Items for Preventing the Spread of Respiratory Sicknesses within your home

- Self and family Isolation as much as possible
 - Maintain Social Distancing by avoiding large groups of people
 - Consider alternate methods (friends or delivery of services) to get food, medications, and supplies to your home
- No outside visitors unless essential (Private duty nurse, maintenance, etc.)
 - Anyone required to be in the home should be checked for fever before entering the home
 - Remove shoes at the door
 - If Nurse is exhibiting signs and symptoms of COVID-19; cough, fever, shortness of breath (CDC.gov, 2019); the nurse is required to contact on-call, their supervisor, and not report to their shift.
 - Should the test come back negative for COVID-19; they may return to work after they have been fever-free for 72 hours without medication and symptoms improve. Upon return; if residual cold symptoms continue, the nurse must wear a mask until any residual symptoms resolve.
- Enforce hand hygiene among all members of the household
 - Perform hand hygiene frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains 60 to 95% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry.
 - Position hand sanitizer in every room
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue and promptly discard the tissue into the trashcan; followed by washing your hands.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Make sure that shared spaces in the home have good air flow, such as by an air conditioner or an opened window, weather permitting.
- Household members should stay in another room or be separated from the patient as much as possible.
- Clean all “high-touch” surfaces, such as counters, tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, phones, keyboards, tablets, and light switches every day.

MEDICALLY FRAGILE CHILD IN THIS HOME

- * NO SMOKING ON PREMISES
- * NO ILL VISITORS
- * WASH HANDS UPON ENTRY

References:

Pritzker, J. B. & Nogozi O. Ezike, MD, Director (2020). Medically Fragile Child Guidance. *Recommended Guidance for Preventing Spread of COVID-19 in the Medically Fragile Child.*

Get Your Household Ready for Coronavirus Disease 2019. (2020, March 18). Retrieved March 25, 2020, from <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/get-your-household-ready-for-COVID-19.html>