

Coronavirus – Covid-19: **Fiction** and **Facts**

It is important for all of us to know the real facts! Fact check information you are seeing and hearing!

Fiction Everyone who is being tested for Covid-19 is probably positive for the disease.

Fact Not everyone who gets tested will be positive for the virus. As of March 19th at 11:00 am 2,505 people in NC had been tested and 97 had been determined positive. Based on those numbers – very few of those tested were positive.

Fiction Everybody's body temperature when healthy is 98.6 degrees. **Fact** Among adults, the average body temperature ranges from 97 degrees to 99 degrees. In older adults the average body temperature is lower than 98.6 degrees. (Age, gender, time of day, and activity level are all factors which may impact your temperature).

Fiction Younger people are not at significant risk from the Coronavirus **Fact** Approximately 40% of people requiring hospitalization for the treatment of coronavirus are between the ages of 20 years and 54 years of age. Because you work with a vulnerable population, it is critical that you limit your time in the community.

Fiction You should wear a face mask at all times when outdoors. **Fact** People who are healthy, have no symptoms and have not been diagnosed with COVID-19 need to wear a mask if they are taking care of a person with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infection. Masks are only effective if you are coughing or sneezing - in which case you should be self-isolating - and only when used in combination with frequent hand-washing and other hygiene practices. A lot of PPE is in short supply and should not be misused!

Fiction Hand dryers are effective in killing the new coronavirus. **Fact** Hand dryers are not effective against COVID-19, but frequently cleaning your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub, or washing them with soap and water is. Clean hands should be dried thoroughly with a clean towel or air dryer.

Fiction The new coronavirus can be spread by mosquito bites and in Chinese food. .

Fact The new coronavirus is a respiratory virus that spreads primarily via droplets when an infected person coughs sneezes or breathes out, or through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose.

Reliable sources of information: www.cdc.gov ; <https://www.ncdhhs.gov>; your local public health department; the Hotline: 1-866-462-3821