



Diseases Fact Sheet - Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)

South Dakota Department of Health

Office of Disease Prevention Services - 605-773-3737 -(1-800-592-1861 in South Dakota only)

This material is provided for informational purposes only and is not a substitute for medical care. We are not able to answer personal medical questions. Please see your health care provider concerning appropriate care, treatment or other medical advice.

What is it?

Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) is caused by SARS-associated coronavirus (SARS-CoV).

What are symptoms of SARS?

Those with SARS typically experience a high fever first, and additional symptoms can include headaches, feelings of discomfort, body aches and mild respiratory symptoms. Patients may experience dry coughing and are likely to develop pneumonia.

How does SARS spread?

SARS is thought to spread through contact with infected people and especially through particles from sneezing and coughing. It may also spread when people touch infected surfaces or be airborne.

Can it be prevented?

If you or someone you know may have SARS, contact your health care provider and ensure to call ahead of time before meeting with any medical professionals.

Do not expose others at work, school or other activities out of your home. Learn more prevention steps from the [CDC](#).

Please visit the CDC website for more information on [SARS](#).