Can gargling mouthwash protect you from infection with the new coronavirus?

No. There is no evidence that using mouthwash will protect you from infection with the new coronavirus. Some brands of mouthwash can eliminate certain microbes for a few minutes in the saliva in your mouth. However, this does not mean they protect you from 2019-nCoV infection.

#2019nCoV

Does the new coronavirus affect older people, or are younger people also susceptible?

People of all ages can be infected by the new coronavirus (nCoV-2019).

Older people, and people with pre-existing medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease) appear to be more vulnerable to becoming severely ill with the virus.
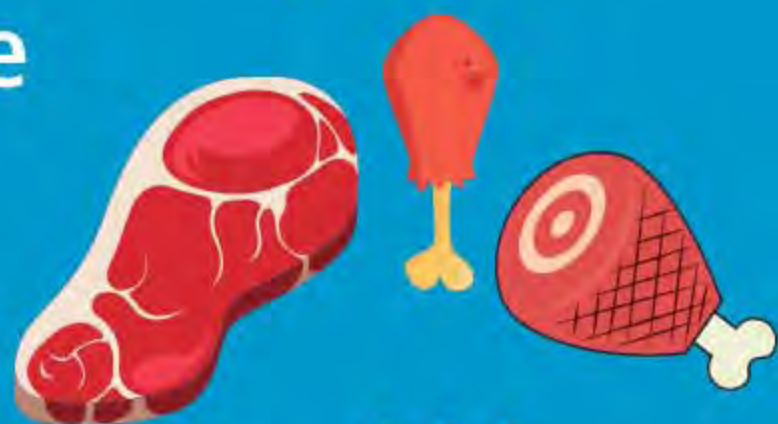
WHO advise people of all age to take steps to protect themselves from the virus, for example by following good hand hygiene and good respiratory hygiene.

World Health Organization

#Coronavirus

Practise food safety

Even in **areas experiencing outbreaks**, meat products can be safely consumed if these items are **cooked thoroughly and properly handled** during food preparation.

To date, there is no specific medicine recommended to prevent or treat the new coronavirus (2019-nCoV).

However, those infected with the virus should receive appropriate care to relieve and treat symptoms, and those with severe illness should receive optimized supportive care. Some specific treatments are under investigation, and will be tested through clinical trials.

WHO is helping to accelerate research and development efforts with a range of partners.

World Health Organization

#Coronavirus

Are there any specific medicines to prevent or treat the new coronavirus?

Wash your hands

Wash your hands with soap and running water when **hands are visibly dirty**

If your **hands are not visibly dirty,** frequently clean them by using alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water

Protect yourself and others from getting sick

Wash your hands

- after coughing or sneezing
- when caring for the sick
- before, during and after you prepare food
- before eating
- after toilet use
- when hands are visibly dirty
- after handling animals or animal waste

World Health Organization

Protect others from getting sick

When coughing and sneezing **cover mouth and nose** with flexed elbow or tissue

Throw tissue into closed bin immediately after use

Clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water after coughing or sneezing and when caring for the sick

World Health Organization

Protect others from getting sick

Avoid close contact when you are experiencing cough and fever

Avoid spitting in public

If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing **seek medical care early** and share previous travel history with your health care provider

World Health
Organization

Practise food safety

Use different **chopping boards and knives** for raw meat and cooked foods

Wash your hands between handling raw and cooked food.

Practise food safety

Sick animals and animals that have died of diseases should not be eaten

World Health Organization

Reduce your risk of coronavirus infection:

Frequently clean hands by using alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water

When coughing and sneezing cover mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue – throw tissue away immediately and wash hands

Avoid close contact with anyone that has fever and cough

Thoroughly cook meat and eggs

Avoid unprotected contact with live wild or farm animals

World Health Organization