

WHAT ARE NPI'S?

The non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPI) below have been chosen by the Washington State Department of Health as the most effective strategies to minimize the spread of the new coronavirus (COVID-19).

The 13 strategies below are ranked from the most flexible to the most restrictive. Restrictive strategies are not in place now, public health officers have the authority to implement these. Strategies 8 through 13 are not in effect as of March 2, 2020. Stay informed from the Washington State Department of Health (www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus) and Public Health – Seattle & King County (www.kingcounty.gov/covid).

For each of the 13 strategies, the state Department of Health has developed the public health rationale, benefits and risks, and guidance for decision-making and implementation.

INTERVENTIONS OUTLINED IN NPI IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE.

Strategies in place (as of March 2, 2020):

1. Increase handwashing and use of alcohol-based sanitizer
2. Respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette
3. Keep distance from others (>6 feet)
4. Frequently clean and disinfect surfaces
5. Remain home during a respiratory illness
6. Voluntary isolation of sick persons
7. Voluntary quarantine of contacts of sick persons

Strategies that may be implemented as needed depending on the spread of COVID-19

8. Involuntary isolation of sick persons
9. Involuntary quarantine of contacts of sick persons
10. Recommend or order cancellation of major public and large private gatherings
11. Recommend or order closure of schools, childcare facilities, workplaces, and public buildings
12. Prevent non-emergency travel outside of the home
13. Isolate specific geographic areas, also called “establishing a cordon sanitaire”