

HANTAVIRUS



What is Hantavirus?

Hantavirus is a **very dangerous germ**, a virus. You catch this germ from rodents, like mice or rats. This virus can make you very sick. It can hurt your lungs or kidneys. You need your lungs and kidneys to live. So it's a big deal.



How does it spread?

You catch Hantavirus from sick rodents. Not people. You can catch it if:

- You touch pee or poop from sick rodents.
- You're around pee or poop from sick rodents, and breathe in the virus.
- A sick mouse or rat bites or scratches you.
- You touch something with Hantavirus germs, and then touch your face.

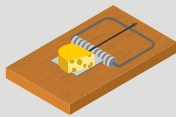


How can I protect myself?

Stay away from mice and rats and keep them away from you. They can sneak into your house through *really* small holes. If you find rodent pee or poop in the place you live, it's time to carefully clean.



Seal holes



Trap rodents



Clean up

How do I know if I have it?

Hantavirus can feel a lot like the flu. It can attack your lungs or your kidneys. If you are sick with this virus, you can have:

- Cough
- Trouble breathing
- Vomiting
- Fever
- Headache
- Stomach pain
- Low blood pressure
- Rash (spots on your skin)
- Blurred vision

What should I do if I think I have it?

If you think you have Hantavirus, you need to see a doctor right away. You need to tell your doctor that you have been around rodents. Remember, Hantavirus can seem like the flu. So, the doctor may need to test you to make sure they know which germ is making you sick. The sooner they know why you are sick, the sooner they can get you the right medicine.

