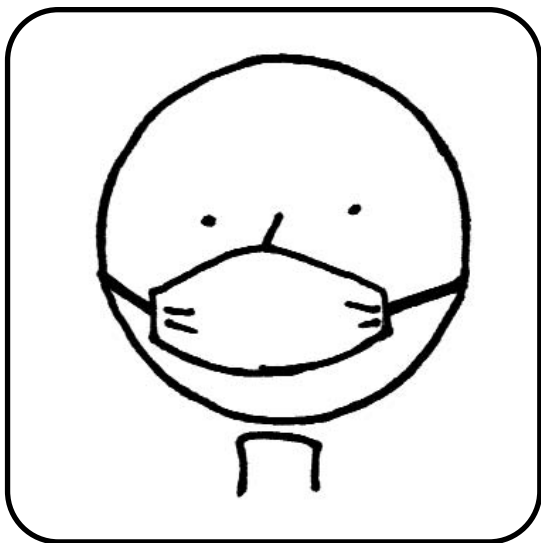


When you are at a clinic or hospital:

- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue and dispose of the used tissue in the waste basket.
- Clean your hands with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand cleaner.



- You may also be asked to wear a mask to protect others.

* Don't worry if you see staff and other people wearing masks. They are preventing the spread of germs.

Space for clinic-specific
information.

APIC

ASSOCIATION FOR PROFESSIONALS IN
INFECTION CONTROL AND EPIDEMIOLOGY, INC.



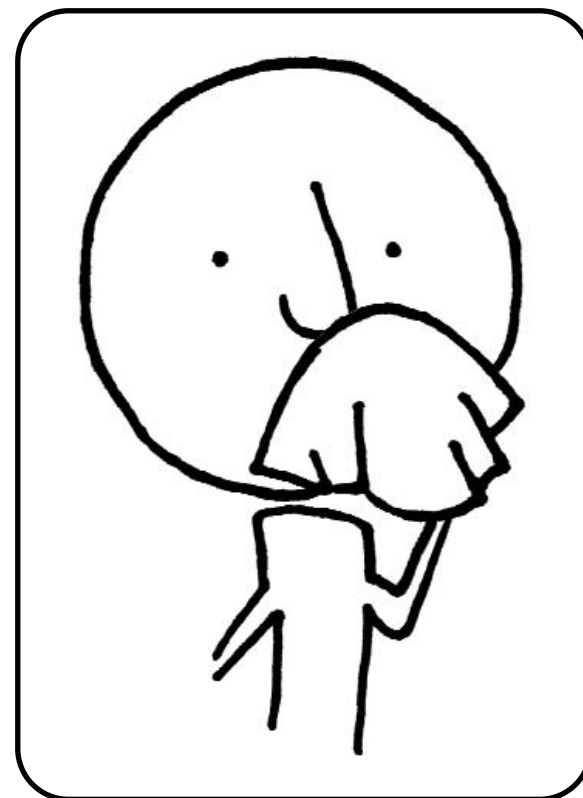
Minnesota
Antibiotic
Resistance
Collaborative



Minnesota Department of Health
625 N Robert Street, PO Box 64975
St. Paul, MN 55164-0975
651-201-5414 TDD/TTY 651-201-5797
www.health.state.mn.us

**Stop the spread of germs that
make you and others sick!**

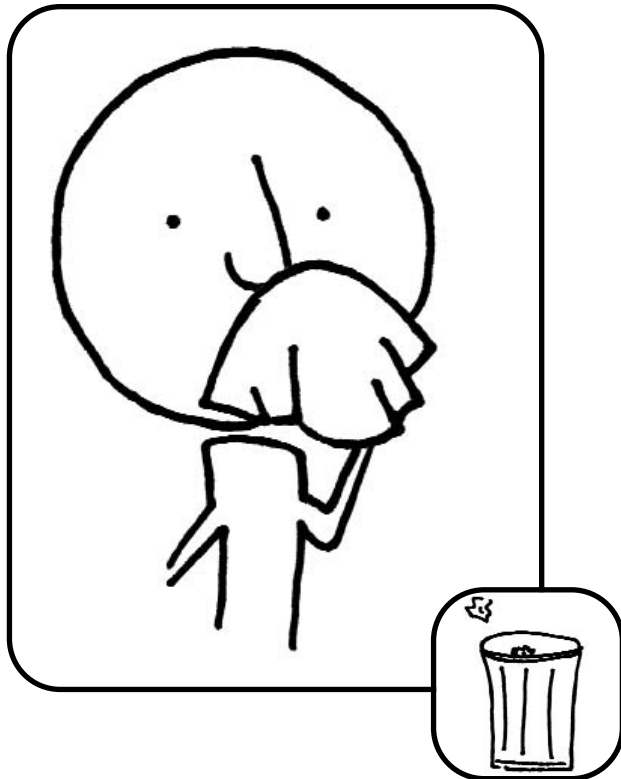
Cover your Cough



Illness prevention tips from The Minnesota Department of Health, The Association of Professionals in Infection Control, and The Minnesota Antibiotic Resistance Collaborative

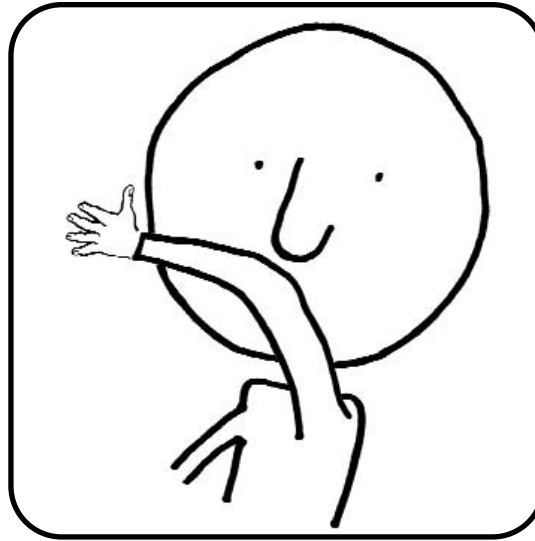
Why should I cover my cough?

- Serious respiratory illnesses like influenza, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), whooping cough and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) are spread by:
 - Coughing or sneezing
 - Unclean hands
- These illnesses spread easily in crowded places where people are in close contact.



How do I stop the spread of germs if I am sick?

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue every time you cough or sneeze. Throw the used tissue in a waste basket.
- If you don't have a tissue, sneeze or cough into your sleeve.



- After coughing or sneezing, always clean your hands with soap & water or an alcohol-based hand cleaner.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Do not share eating utensils, drinking glasses, towels or other personal items.

How can I stay healthy?

- Clean your hands often with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand cleaner.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick, if possible.
- Get vaccinated! Influenza (flu) and pneumococcal (pneumonia) vaccines can prevent some serious respiratory illnesses.

