**Does Weather Affect the Coronavirus Outside?**

**天气会影响室外的冠状病毒传播吗?**

Does weather affect the spread of the coronavirus outside a building, in the open air?

天气会影响冠状病毒在室外或开阔区域的传播吗?

Not really, experts say.

专家表示：并不会。

The World Health Organization (WHO) says the virus can be spread in any kind of weather. There is also no reason to believe that cold weather can kill it.

世界卫生组织称冠状病毒可以在任何天气下传播，也没有理由相信寒冷的天气会杀死这种病毒。

The WHO says the virus is mainly spread between people. Rain and snow may help reduce the amount of the virus on chairs or other outside objects. But spread of the virus from surfaces is not believed to be a major contributor to the COVID-19 health crisis.

世卫组织表示病毒主要在人与人之间传播。雨雪可能有助于减少椅子或其他外部物体上的病毒数量。但据信病毒通过物体表面传播并不是导致冠状病毒健康危机的主要因素。

Scientists say the real concern about cold weather is that lower temperatures are more likely to keep people indoors. They also are more likely to be in more crowded spaces, where the virus can spread more easily.

科学家们表示，寒冷天气状况下真正令人担忧的是较低的气温更有可能迫使人们待在室内。人们还更有可能待在更拥挤的空间内从而导致病毒更容易传播。

Studies have shown that a large percentage of spread happens within homes when people are sharing common areas like bathrooms.

研究表明，很大比例的传播发生在家庭内部的公共区域，比如浴室。

The WHO and others have also warned about the virus spreading in indoor areas with poor ventilation. They note the virus can be spread in the air, and infectious particles might remain in the air for several hours.

世卫组织和其他组织也警告称，病毒会在通风不良的室内区域传播。他们指出，病毒可以在空气中传播，可感染性颗粒可能会在空气中存在数小时。

Some infections have been linked to nightclub visits, working out at physical exercise centers, and even performing with other people as part of a singing group.

已发生的一些感染案例或与夜总会，健身中心以及团体一起唱歌有关。

The coronavirus does not spread as often outdoors because fresh air breaks up the virus particles. People also have an easier time keeping their distance from others in outdoor areas. But experts warn that coronavirus spread is still possible if people spend extended periods of time outdoors close to others without covering their nose and mouth.

冠状病毒反而没有在户外广泛传播，因为户外的新鲜空气会分散病毒颗粒。在户外人们也更容易与他人保持距离。但专家警告称，如果人们长时间待在户外近距离接触他人而不捂住口鼻的话，那么冠状病毒仍有可能传播。

Health officials say the best way to stop spread of the virus is to wear a face mask in public, stay at least 2 meters away from people not in your home and repeatedly wash your hands.

卫生官方表示，阻止病毒传播的最好的方法是在公共场所戴口罩，与外人保持至少2米的距离并勤洗手。

I’m Jonathan Evans.

乔纳森·埃文斯报道。

**Does Weather Affect the Coronavirus Outside?**

Does weather affect the spread of the coronavirus outside a building, in the open air?

Not really, experts say.

The World Health Organization (WHO) says the virus can be spread in any kind of weather. There is also no reason to believe that cold weather can kill it.

The WHO says the virus is mainly spread between people. Rain and snow may help reduce the amount of the virus on chairs or other outside objects. But spread of the virus from surfaces is not believed to be a major contributor to the COVID-19 health crisis.

Scientists say the real concern about cold weather is that lower temperatures are more likely to keep people indoors. They also are more likely to be in more crowded spaces, where the virus can spread more easily.

Studies have shown that a large percentage of spread happens within homes when people are sharing common areas like bathrooms.

The WHO and others have also warned about the virus spreading in indoor areas with poor ventilation. They note the virus can be spread in the air, and infectious particles might remain in the air for several hours.

Some infections have been linked to nightclub visits, working out at physical exercise centers, and even performing with other people as part of a singing group.

The coronavirus does not spread as often outdoors because fresh air breaks up the virus particles. People also have an easier time keeping their distance from others in outdoor areas. But experts warn that coronavirus spread is still possible if people spend extended periods of time outdoors close to others without covering their nose and mouth.

Health officials say the best way to stop spread of the virus is to wear a face mask in public, stay at least 2 meters away from people not in your home and repeatedly wash your hands.

I’m Jonathan Evans.