



# Andes Virus

A hantavirus spread by rodents in South America that can cause a severe respiratory disease in people, called Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS).

## How does Andes virus spread?



**Through contact**  
with infected rodents  
or their urine,  
saliva, or feces



**Touching an object**  
or surface with the virus  
on it, then touching  
mouth, nose or eyes



**Through close contact**  
with a person who  
is sick with  
Andes virus

## What are the symptoms?

**Signs and symptoms of infection appear 4 to 42 days after exposure.**

Early symptoms can look like flu and include:

- Headache
- Fever
- Muscle ache/back pain
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Cough
- Chest pain
- Loss of appetite
- Difficulty breathing

Typically, people are only infectious while they have symptoms.

## Is there a treatment?

**No.** There is no specific antiviral treatment or vaccine currently available. Early medical care is critical and focuses on supportive treatment.

## How is it prevented?

Avoid areas infested with rodents while visiting countries in South America.

Avoid spread between people by:

- Washing hands frequently
- Avoiding kissing and sexual contact with someone who may have Andes virus
- Maintaining distance from someone who may have Andes virus



If you may have had contact with a person with Andes virus and are experiencing symptoms, contact a medical professional immediately.