COVID-19

COVID-19 is a viral respiratory disease caused by a new coronavirus called SARS-CoV-2.

- The disease was first detected in late 2019 and is present worldwide.
- Although most healthy people will develop mild to moderate disease, up to one in five young adults with COVID-19 may require hospitalization.

How does COVID-19 spread?

People are infected mainly person to person:

- Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
- Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. These droplets can:
  » Land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
  » Contaminate surfaces that are then touched by people who then touch their mouth, nose or possibly their eyes.

Can people without symptoms spread COVID-19?

Recent studies suggest that COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.

Ebola

Ebola is a rare and deadly disease caused by infection with an ebolavirus. Four species of the virus can cause disease in humans.

- It was first discovered in 1976 near the Ebola River in what is now the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- Without any treatment, 70-90% of people infected with Zaire ebolavirus will die.

How does Ebola spread?

People get Ebola through direct contact with:

- The body fluids (such as urine, feces, saliva, sweat, vomit, breast milk, semen, and vaginal fluids) of a person who is sick or has died from Ebola.
- Objects contaminated with body fluids of a person who is sick with or has died of Ebola.
- Infected animals (fruit bats, apes, monkeys, duikers).

It is also possible for people to get Ebola through direct contact with:

- Semen of a man who has recovered from Ebola (for example, by having oral, vaginal, or anal sex).
- Breast milk of a woman who has recovered from Ebola.

Can people without symptoms spread Ebola?

People recently infected with Ebola cannot spread the disease to others before symptoms appear.

After recovering from the virus, it is possible for Ebola to spread through the semen or breast milk of people without symptoms.
### Is it COVID-19 or Ebola?

#### Signs and symptoms of COVID-19

- **The signs and symptoms of COVID can appear 2-14 days after exposure. In some people, symptoms of COVID-19 can worsen after the first week of illness.**

  - **Most Common**
    - Fever
    - Chills
    - Fatigue
    - Cough
    - Shortness of breath
    - Muscle pains

  - **Additional Symptoms**
    - Headache
    - Sore throat
    - New loss of taste or smell
    - Runny nose
    - Bloody sputum
    - Vomiting and diarrhea

#### Signs and symptoms of Ebola

- **The signs and symptoms of Ebola can appear 2-21 days after exposure. Symptoms of Ebola develop over several days and become worse over time.**

  - **Most Common**
    - Fever
    - Aches and pains, such as severe headache, muscle and joint pain, and stomach pain
    - Weakness and fatigue
    - Diarrhea and vomiting

  - **Additional Symptoms**
    - Unexplained hemorrhaging (bleeding or bruising)
    - Red eyes
    - Skin rash
    - Hiccups (late stage)

### Who is at high risk for becoming infected with COVID-19?

- Healthcare providers and family members taking care of patients with COVID-19 are more frequently exposed.
- Residents of skilled nursing facilities and communal living centers who have frequent contact with others.

### Who is at high risk for becoming infected with Ebola?

- Health workers who do not use proper infection control while caring for Ebola patients, and family and friends in close contact with Ebola patients.
- Ebola poses little risk to travelers or the general public who have not cared for or been in close contact (within 3 feet) with someone sick with Ebola.

### Who is at risk of severe illness from COVID-19?

- Older adults and people of all ages who have chronic underlying medical conditions, like heart or lung disease or diabetes, seem to be at higher risk for developing more serious complications and dying from COVID-19.

### Who is at risk of severe illness from Ebola?

- Pregnant women, children, and those who present to care late in the course of illness are at higher risk of dying from Ebola.

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For more information about COVID-19 or Ebola, visit [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus) and [www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/)