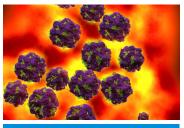
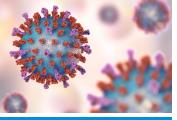
Respiratory Pathogens

Is it a Cold, RSV, Influenza or COVID-19?



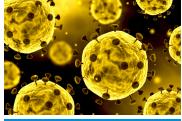
Rhinovirus (Common Cold)



Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)



Influenza (Flu Virus)



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COVID-19

	Rhinovirus (Common Cold)	Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)	Influenza (Flu Virus)	COVID -19
Causative agent (pathogen)	Many different viruses in- cluding rhinoviruses (most common), parainfluenza and seasonal coronaviruses.	Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)	Influenza viruses types A & B	SARS-CoV-2
How it spreads	Respiratory droplets and direct contact with the infected person, their respiratory secretions or stool ("poop"), or with contaminated surfaces, followed by touching eyes, nose or mouth.	Respiratory droplets and direct contact with the infected person or their respiratory secretions, or with contaminated surfaces followed by touching eyes, nose or mouth.	Person-to-person by way of large respiratory droplets and direct contact with their respiratory secretions, or contaminated surfaces, followed by touching eyes, nose or mouth.	Primarily through breathing in small droplets or particles that contain the virus, or when they land on eyes, nose or mouth through splashes, sprays- like coughs or sneezes. Contact with their respiratory secretions or contaminated surfaces, followed by touching eyes, nose or mouth.
Contagious period	24 hours before symptom onset to 5 days afterward	3–8 days but can be as long as 4 weeks.	From 1 day before symp- tom onset to 5–7 days afterward.	From 2 days before symptom onset to ~10 days afterward. This includes asymptomatic persons.
Incubation period (time to symptom onset after an exposure)	~2 days	4–6 days	1–4 days	2–14 days
Symptoms	 Symptom onset is gradual. Common symptoms include: Sneezing Mild to moderate chest discomfort, cough Stuffy nose Sore throat 	Symptoms appear in stages and not all at once and include: Runny nose Decreased appetite Coughing Sneezing Fever Wheezing In very young infants, the only symptoms might be: Irritability Decreased activity Difficulty breathing	Symptom onset is abrupt. Common symptoms include: Fever, chills Aches Fatigue, weakness Chest discomfort, cough Headache	 Symptoms range from none to severe and include: Fever, chills Cough Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing Fatigue Muscle aches Headache New loss of taste or smell Sore throat Congestion, runny nose Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea

	Rhinovirus (Common Cold)	Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)	Influenza (Flu Virus)	COVID -19
Survival on surfaces	2 hours to 7 days (rhinovirus)	7–8 hours	2 hours to several weeks	4 hours to 8 days
Vaccine preventable	No	Yes (high risk individuals only)*	Yes	Yes
Infection prevention	 Frequent hand hygiene 	 Frequent hand hygiene Get vaccinated if you are 60 and older, or pregnant 	 Get vaccinated annually. 	 Get vaccinated
	 Avoid touching eyes, nose, mouth with unclean hands 	 Avoid touching eyes, nose, mouth with unclean hands 	 Frequent hand hygiene 	 Wear a mask
	 Cover coughs, sneezes 	 Cover cough, sneezes 	 Avoid touching eyes, nose, mouth with unclean hands 	 Social distance (6 feet from others)
	 Avoid contact with people who are sick 	 Avoid contact people who are sick 	 Cover coughs, sneezes 	 Frequent hand hygiene
	 Clean & disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with the virus 	 Clean & disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with the virus 	 Avoid contact with people who are sick 	 Avoid touching eyes, nose, mouth with unclean hands
	 Stay home when ill 	 Stay home when ill 	 Clean & disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with the virus 	 Cover coughs and sneezes
			 Stay home when ill 	 Avoid crowds and poorly ventilated spaces
				 Avoid contact with people who are sick
				 Clean & disinfect high touch surfaces daily
				 Stay home when ill
Additional pathogen information and product recommendations	Rhinovirus Pathogen Education Sheet	RSV Pathogen Education Sheet	Influenza Pathogen Education Sheet	COVID-19 Pathogen Education Sheet

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*An RSV vaccine has been approved by the FDA for individuals 60 years of age and older, and for pregnant women to protect newborns. An RSV vaccine for the general public, including infants and children, is not available at this time. There is a monoclonal antibody treatment administered monthly during the RSV season to high-risk infants.



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