THE FLU VACCINE GIVE IT A SHOT

Flu vs. COVID-19

While some of the symptoms of the flu and COVID-19 may seem similar there are some key differences between flu and COVID-19.

The flu and COVID-19 are both contagious respiratory illnesses, but they are caused by different viruses. COVID-19 is caused by infection with a new coronavirus (called SARS-CoV-2) and the flu is caused by infection with influenza viruses.

Here are some of the key differences between the flu and COVID-19.

	Flu	COVID-19
Symptoms	Mild to severe illness, including common signs and symptoms like fever, cough, runny nose and fatigue.	More serious illnesses in some people. Also some experience a change in or loss of taste or smell.
Appearance of symptoms	Typically, a person develops symptoms anywhere from **1 to 4 days** after infection.	Typically, a person develops symptoms **5 days** after being infected, but symptoms can appear as early as **2 days** after infection or as late as **14 days** after infection, and the time range can vary.
Spreading the virus	Most people with flu are contagious for about **1 day** before they show symptoms. Older children and adults with flu appear to be most contagious during the initial **3-4 days** of their illness but many remain contagious for about **7 days**.	It's possible for people to spread the virus for about **2 days** before experiencing signs or symptoms and remain contagious for at least **10 days** after signs or symptoms first appeared. If someone is asymptomatic or their symptoms go away, it's possible to remain contagious for at least **10 days** after testing positive for COVID-19.
Who's at risk	The risk of complications for healthy children is higher for flu compared to COVID-19. ***However, infants and children with underlying medical conditions are at increased risk for both flu and COVID-19.**	The risk is higher in older people and those with underlying medical conditions.
Complications	Most people who get flu recover in a few days to less than two weeks. Some people may develop more serious complications, like pneumonia.	Complications can include blood clots in the veins and arteries of the lungs, heart, legs or brain.
Vaccine	There are multiple FDA-licensed influenza vaccines produced annually to protect against the 3 or 4 flu viruses that scientists anticipate will circulate each year.	Currently there is no vaccine to prevent COVID-19.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. **cdc.gov.**

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While there's no vaccine for COVID-19, there is one for the flu, so protect yourself and *give it a shot!*

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