

SYMPTOM COMPARISON CHART

	Influenza	Norovirus	RSV	Cold	COVID-19
Incubation	1-7 days (Avg 1-4 days)	12-48 Hours	2-8 days (Avg 4-6 days)	8h-5 days (Avg 1-3 days)	2-14 days (Avg 3-5 days)
Symptom onset	Abrupt	Abrupt	Gradual	Gradual	Varies* ²
Typical illness duration	3-7 days	1-2 days	7-10 days, up to 6 weeks	7-10 days	5-10 days
Signs/symptoms*³					
Cough, chest discomfort	Common	Not a symptom	Common	Sometimes	Common
Fatigue, weakness	Common	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Common
Fever*¹	Common	Sometimes	Sometimes	Rare	Sometimes
Aches	Common	Sometimes	Rare	Rare	Sometimes
Chills	Common	Sometimes	Not a symptom	Rare	Sometimes
Headache	Common	Sometimes	Sometimes	Rare	Common
Sore throat	Sometimes	Not a symptom	Sometimes	Common	Common
Sneezing	Sometimes	Rare	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes
Congestion, runny nose	Sometimes	Not a symptom	Common	Common	Common
Shortness of breath	Rare	Rare	Sometimes	Rare	Common
Nausea	Rare	Common	Not a symptom	Rare	Sometimes
Vomiting	Rare	Common	Rare	Not a symptom	Sometimes
Diarrhea	Rare	Common	Rare	Not a symptom	Sometimes
Stomach pain	Rare	Common	Not a symptom	Rare	Rare
Wheezing	Rare	Not a symptom	Common	Rare	Rare
New loss of taste of smell	Not a symptom	Not a symptom	Not a symptom	Not a symptom	Sometimes

Footnotes:

1. Fever is defined as a temperature above 100.4°F (38°C) under the arm, forehead or oral. [CFOC Standards Database](#) | [National Resource Center \(nrckids.org\)](#)
2. People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. [Symptoms of COVID-19 | CDC](#)
3. “If you test positive for COVID-19, **stay home for at least 5 days and isolate from others in your home. You are likely most infectious during these first 5 days.**” [Isolation and Precautions for People with COVID-19 | CDC](#)



SNOHOMISH COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT