

SARS-CoV-2

The cause of COVID-19

In late 2019, an outbreak of respiratory illness was reported in Wuhan, China. To-date, the virus has infected thousands of people and the associated death toll is rising. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is closely monitoring the situation and provides comprehensive and timely updates.¹

On February 12, 2020, the World Health Organization named this respiratory illness, COVID-19. The “CO” stands for corona, “VI” for virus, and “D” for disease. “19” refers to 2019, the year the illness was first reported.

COVID-19 is caused by a coronavirus, which was initially named 2019-novel Coronavirus, or 2019-nCoV. On February 12, 2020, International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses named the virus SARS-CoV-2, or Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus-2. The Committee determined that this coronavirus was the same species as SARS-CoV, the virus that caused a global outbreak of a respiratory illness in 2003, but a different strain, hence the designation “2”.

What are coronaviruses?

Coronaviruses (CoV) are a family of enveloped virus that was first discovered in the 1960s. Coronaviruses are most commonly found in animals, including camels and bats, and are not typically transmitted between animals and humans. However six strains of coronavirus were previously known to be capable of transmission from animals to humans, the most well-known being SARS-CoV (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus), responsible for a large outbreak in 2003, and MERS-CoV (Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus), responsible for an outbreak in 2012.²

What are the symptoms of a human coronavirus infection?

Human coronavirus usually causes mild to moderate upper respiratory tract illness, similar to a common cold. Symptoms often include runny nose, headache, cough, sore throat, and fever. Most people contract the illness at some point in their lives and it usually only lasts for a short time. Sometimes human coronaviruses can cause lower respiratory tract infections, such as pneumonia or bronchitis. This is more common in infants, the elderly, or individuals with weakened immune systems. In some serious cases, such as with COVID-19, the virus can cause severe acute respiratory syndrome, pneumonia, kidney failure, and death.³

How are coronaviruses spread?

Coronaviruses are typically spread through the air via coughing or sneezing, via contact with an infected person or contaminated surfaces, and sometimes, but rarely, via fecal contamination. SARS-CoV-2 may have originally spread from animals to humans, but person-to-person transmission is now acknowledged. This pattern of transmission was also reported with SARS-CoV and MERS-CoV.

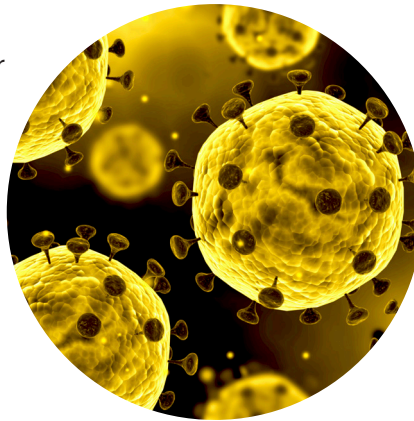
Why are human coronaviruses and particularly SARS-CoV-2 a concern?

Most people get infected with a human coronavirus at some point in their lives and experience cold-like symptoms for a few days before recovering. However, coronaviruses such as MERS-CoV, SARS-CoV and SARS-CoV-2 can cause severe symptoms including fever, cough and shortness of breath that can lead to pneumonia and even death. These coronaviruses can quickly spread from person to person and can lead to widespread outbreaks when infected individuals travel to different countries. As with most emerging viruses, the risk depends on a number of factors including ease of transmission, severity of symptoms, and prevention and treatment options available. In the case of SARS-CoV-2, there is neither a vaccine nor specific treatment.

Infection Control Measures

The CDC provides useful guidance and resources relating to the COVID-19 outbreak, including infection control measures. These should all be implemented when patients are suspected of being infected with a coronavirus.⁵

- Hand hygiene: Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette: Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Avoid contact with infected individuals, as possible.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects with products that have an EPA-approved emerging viral pathogens claims for use against SARS-CoV-2.
- The CDC recommends that individuals confirmed or suspected to have COVID-19 should wear a mask, and healthcare workers should use eye protection. Both contact and airborne precautions should be implemented in addition to standard precautions.



CloroxPro™ Products Eligible to Be Used Against SARS-CoV-2 Based on the EPA's Emerging Viral Pathogen Policy

The products listed below have demonstrated effectiveness against viruses similar to SARS-CoV-2 (formerly 2019-nCoV) on hard, nonporous surfaces. Therefore, these products can be used against SARS-CoV-2 when used in accordance with the directions for use against the virus listed for each product in the table on hard, nonporous surfaces. For more information, refer to the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/>.

	Product Name	UPC	EPA Reg. No.	Follow directions for use against stated virus (contact time)
Clorox Healthcare®	Clorox Healthcare® Bleach Germicidal Cleaner Spray	68967 68970 68832 68973 68978	56392-7	Rhinovirus (1 min)
	Clorox Healthcare® Bleach Germicidal Wipes	30577 35309 30358 30359 31469	67619-12	Rhinovirus (1 min)
	Clorox Healthcare® Fuzion® Cleaner Disinfectant	31478	67619-30	Rhinovirus Type 37 (1 min)
	Clorox Healthcare® Hydrogen Peroxide Cleaner Disinfectant	30828 30829 31444	67619-24	Rhinovirus Type 37 (1 min)
	Clorox Healthcare® Hydrogen Peroxide Cleaner Disinfectant Wipes	30824 30825 30826 30827	67619-25	Rhinovirus (1 min)
	Clorox Healthcare® VersaSure® Wipes	31757 31758 31759 31760 31761	67619-37	Rotavirus (2 min)
	Dispatch® Hospital Cleaner Disinfectant Towels with Bleach	69101 69260 69150	56392-8	Rhinovirus (1 min)
	Clorox Healthcare® Citrace® Hospital Disinfectant & Sanitizer	49100	67619-29	Rhinovirus (5 min)
	Clorox® Broad Spectrum Quaternary Disinfectant Cleaner	30649	67619-20	Rhinovirus (3 min)
	Clorox Healthcare® Disinfecting Wipes	31584	67619-31	Rotavirus (4 min)
CloroxPro™	Clorox Commercial Solutions® Clorox® Disinfecting Wipes	15948 15949 31428 31547	67619-31	Rotavirus (4 min)
	CloroxPro™ Clorox® Germicidal Bleach	31009 30966	67619-32	Rhinovirus (5 min)
	Clorox Commercial Solutions® Clorox® Clean-Up Disinfectant Cleaner with Bleach ₁ (Spray)	35417	67619-17	Rhinovirus (30 sec)
	Clorox Commercial Solutions® Clorox® Clean-Up Disinfectant Cleaner with Bleach ₁ (Diluted)	35420	67619-17	Rhinovirus (5 min)
	Clorox Commercial Solutions® Clorox® Disinfecting Spray	38504	67619-21	Rhinovirus (30 sec)
	Clorox Commercial Solutions® Clorox® 4-in-One Disinfectant & Sanitizer	31043	67619-29	Rhinovirus (5 mins)
	Clorox Commercial Solutions® Clorox® 4-in-One Lavender Disinfectant & Sanitizer	32512	67619-29	Rhinovirus (5 mins)
	CloroxPro™ Clorox Total 360® Disinfecting Cleaner ₁	31650	67619-38	Adenovirus Type 2 (2 min)
	Clorox Commercial Solutions® Toilet Bowl Cleaner with Bleach ₁	00031	67619-16	Rhinovirus (10 mins)
	Clorox Commercial Solutions® Clorox® Disinfecting Bio Stain & Odor Remover	31903 31910 31911	67619-33	Rhinovirus (5 min)
	Clorox Commercial Solutions® Clorox® Disinfecting Bathroom Cleaner	16930	5813-40-67619	Rhinovirus (10 mins)
	Clorox Commercial Solutions® Tilex® Soap Scum Remover	35600 35604	5813-40-67619	Rhinovirus (10 mins)
	Clorox Commercial Solutions® Hydrogen Peroxide Disinfecting Cleaners	30832	67619-24	Rhinovirus (1 min)
	Clorox Commercial Solutions® Hydrogen Peroxide Disinfecting Cleaners Wipes	30830 30831 30833	67619-25	Rhinovirus (1 min)

1. CDC. 2019 Novel Coronavirus, Wuhan, China. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html> Accessed January 21, 2020
 2. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/index.html>
 3. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/about/symptoms.html>
 4. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/about/transmission.html>
 5. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/about/prevention.html>

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