

## COVID-19 VS. INFLUENZA

Symptoms of COVID-19 and the flu can look similar but they are caused by different viruses.

### SIMILARITIES



#### SYMPTOMS

- Both cause fever, cough, body aches, and fatigue.
- Can be mild or severe — even fatal in rare cases.
- Can result in pneumonia



#### TRANSMISSION

Both can be spread from person to person through droplets in the air from an infected person coughing, sneezing or talking.



#### PREVENTION

- Frequent, thorough hand washing.
- Frequent use of alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Coughing into the crook of your elbow.
- Limiting visitors, especially young children.



#### TREATMENT

- Neither virus is treatable with antibiotics, which only work on bacterial infections.
- Both may be treated by addressing symptoms, such as reducing fever. Severe cases may require hospitalization and support such as mechanical ventilation.

### DIFFERENCES



#### CAUSE

- **COVID-19:** Caused by one virus, the novel 2019 coronavirus.
- **Flu:** Caused by any of several different types and strains of influenza viruses.



#### VACCINE

- **COVID-19:** No vaccine is available at this time, though it is in progress.
- **Flu:** A vaccine is available and effective to prevent some of the most dangerous types or to reduce the severity of the flu.