

# COVID-19 VS Influenza

## Time from Exposure to Symptoms

### COVID-19

Typically **5 days** after infection but symptoms can appear **2 to 14 days** after infection.

### SIMILARITIES

**1 or more days** can pass after infection before a person starts to experience symptoms.

### Influenza

Typically anywhere from **1 to 4 days** after infection.

## Viral Spread

### COVID-19\*

It's possible to be contagious **2 days** before experiencing symptoms and remain contagious **at least 10 days** after symptoms first appeared.

### SIMILARITIES

It's possible to spread the virus for **at least 1 day** before experiencing any symptoms.

### Influenza

Older children and adults appear to be *most contagious* during the **initial 3 to 4 days** of their illness.

\*How long someone can spread the virus that causes COVID-19 is still under investigation

## Approved Treatments

### COVID-19

The FDA has approved one drug, **remdesiver** (Veklury) to treat COVID-19, and has issued an EUA to permit the emergency use of the monoclonal antibody products **bamlanivimab** and **etesevimab** administered together for people at high risk for progression to severe COVID.

### SIMILARITIES

People at higher risk of complications or who have been hospitalized for COVID-19 or flu should receive **supportive medical care** to help relieve symptoms and complications.

### Influenza

There are **four FDA-approved antiviral drugs** recommended by CDC to treat flu this season: oseltamivir phosphate (Tamiflu®), zanamivir (Relenza®), peramivir (Rapivab®), and baloxavir marboxil (Xofluza®).

## Vaccines

### COVID-19

**Three COVID-19 vaccines** have been authorized for use by the FDA under an EUA. COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for everyone 12 years of age or older.

### SIMILARITIES

Vaccines for COVID-19 and flu are **approved and/or authorized** for emergency use (EUA) by the FDA.

### Influenza

There are **multiple FDA-licensed influenza vaccines** produced annually to protect against the 4 flu viruses that scientists expect will circulate each year.