

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

The COVID-19 novel coronavirus is a new strain of coronavirus affecting humans.

Some coronaviruses can cause illness similar to the common cold and others can cause more serious diseases such as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome ([SARS](https://www.who.int/csr/sars/en) (<https://www.who.int/csr/sars/en>)) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome ([MERS](https://www.who.int/emergencies/mers-cov/en) (<https://www.who.int/emergencies/mers-cov/en>)).

Signs and Symptoms:

Symptoms reported in identified cases of COVID-19 novel coronavirus include:



Fever



Cough



Feeling unusually tired



Diarrhoea



Loss of smell



Loss of taste



Sore throat with or without runny nose



Trouble breathing



Vomiting or feeling ill



Prolonged headache

Other symptoms people may experience include muscle or joint pain, and loss of appetite.

Everyone who gets COVID-19 will experience it a little differently.

People who have extreme symptoms or side effects from the virus may take weeks or months to recover fully, while people with a mild illness may feel completely better within a week or two.

Symptoms can vary depending on each case.

If you have any COVID-19 symptoms, no matter how mild, you should contact your local doctor or call 134 COVID (13 24 68).

People with suspected COVID-19 will be [tested](#)

(<https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/take-action/testing-and-fever-clinics>).

Read about [novel coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms compared to cold or flu](#)

(<https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/find-the-facts/symptoms-of-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-comparison>).

Treatment:

Most people will have minor symptoms just as you would for many other mild viruses, particularly if you are vaccinated and otherwise healthy. Most people will be able to manage their symptoms at home while isolating.

You can use the [healthdirect Australia COVID-19 Symptom and Antiviral Eligibility Checker](#) (<https://www.qld.gov.au/health/covid-self-checker>) if you're unsure what kind of care you may need.

Prevention:

Read about [COVID-19 coronavirus prevention](#)

(<https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/take-action/coronavirus-prevention>).

Other resources:

- For up-to-date global information visit the [WHO](#) (<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>).
- For up-to-date Australian information and resources visit the [Australian Government Department of Health](#) (<https://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov>) website.
- For up-to-date Queensland information visit the [Queensland Government](#) (<https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/current-status/public-health-directions/border-restrictions/>) website

Help and assistance:

- For help with [managing COVID-19 symptoms](#) (<https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/stay-informed/i-have-covid/managing-your-symptoms>) call the National Coronavirus Helpline on **1800 020 080**. Press 8 if you need an interpreter.
- For further information on COVID-19 novel coronavirus, contact 134 COVID (13 24 68).

healthdirect:

[Novel coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) (<https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/coronavirus>)