

Colds, the flu, and COVID-19 share many of the same symptoms.

Signs & symptoms

Incubation time

Symptom onset

Fever

Aches

Chills

Fatigue, weakness

Loss of taste or smell

Sneezing

Cough, chest discomfort

Shortness of breath

Stuffy nose

Sore throat

Headache

	Cold	Flu	COVID-19
Incubation time	1-3 days	1-4 days	2-14 days
Symptom onset	Gradual	Abrupt	Gradual
Fever	Rare	Usual	Common
Aches	Slight	Usual	Sometimes
Chills	Uncommon	Fairly common	Sometimes
Fatigue, weakness	Sometimes	Usual	Sometimes
Loss of taste or smell	-	-	Sometimes
Sneezing	Common	Sometimes	Rare
Cough, chest discomfort	Mild to moderate	Common	Common (usually dry)
Shortness of breath	Rare	Rare	Sometimes
Stuffy nose	Common	Sometimes	Rare
Sore throat	Common	Sometimes	Sometimes
Headache	Rare	Common	Sometimes

That's why it's important to:



Get tested if you don't feel well



Get a flu shot!

For more information about testing:
publichealthmc.com/covid19testing

For more information about flu shots:
publichealthmdc.com/flu