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Symptoms and Testing for COVID-19

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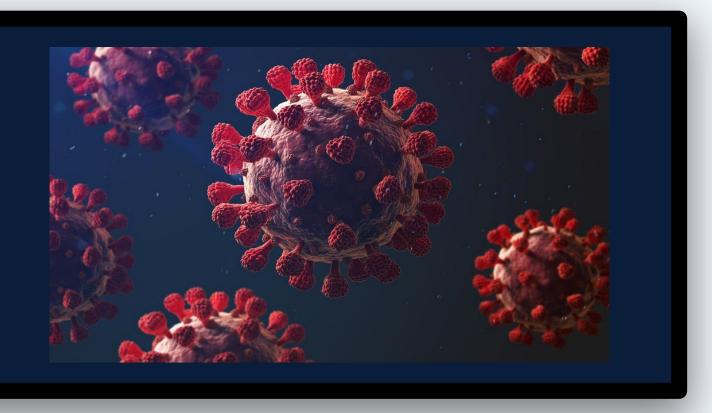
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Symptoms and Testing for COVID-19

Group B: Daniel Gurvich, Laura Fasulo, Micah Goltsman



Short-Term Symptoms

Symptoms include: Headache

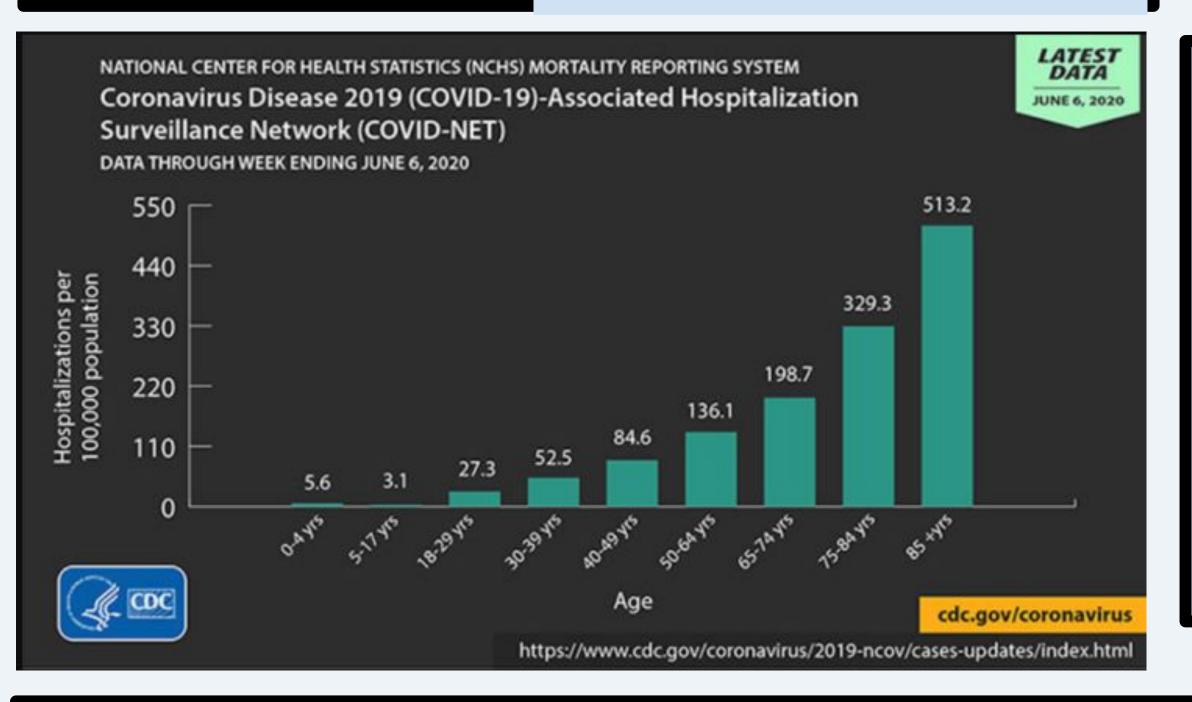
Fever/chills New loss of taste/smell

Cough Sore throat

Shortness of breath Congestion / runny nose

Fatigue Nausea/vomiting

Muscle/body aches Diarrhea



Fever 88%

Mucus production 33%

Dry cough 68%

Shortness of breath 19%

Source: WHO

Fatigue 38%

Muscle pain 15%

Source: WHO

While patients with the seasonal flu typically develop a cough before a fever, COVID-19 symptoms usually appear in the following order:

- 1. Fever
- 2. Cough and muscle pain
- 3. Nausea or vomiting
- 4. Diarrhea

Long-Term Symptoms

In the long term, COVID causes:

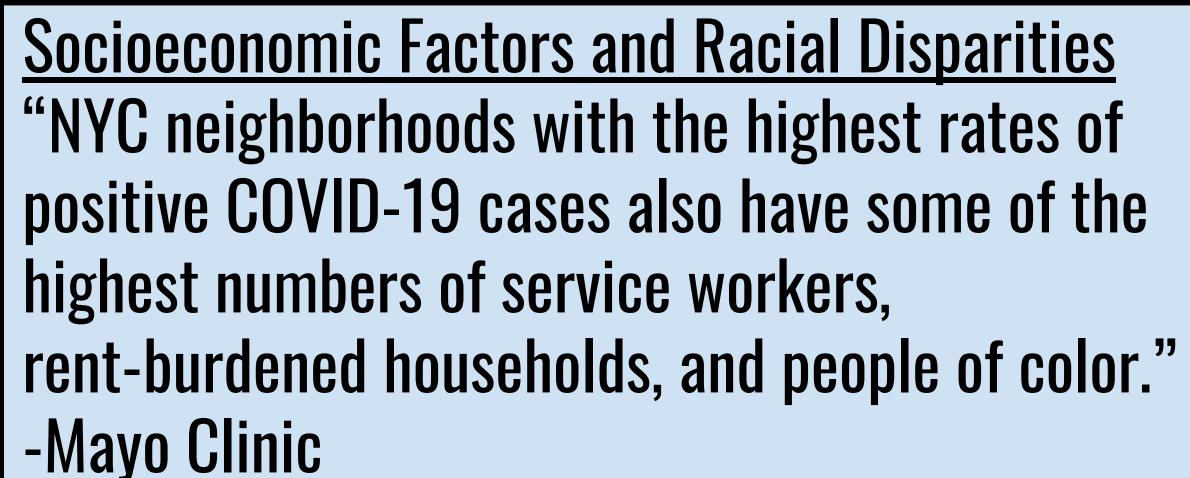
- Organ system damage (heart, lungs, brain)
- Immune system dysfunction
- Development of post-viral conditions like Chronic Fatigue Syndrome
- Neurological issues (brain fog, Guillain Barre syndrome, confusion)

Heart issues: myocarditis, premature heart attacks, heart muscle damage, abnormal heart rhythm or palpitations

Lung issues: alveoli damage, COPD, ARDS, pulmonary fibrosis, lung tissue scarring

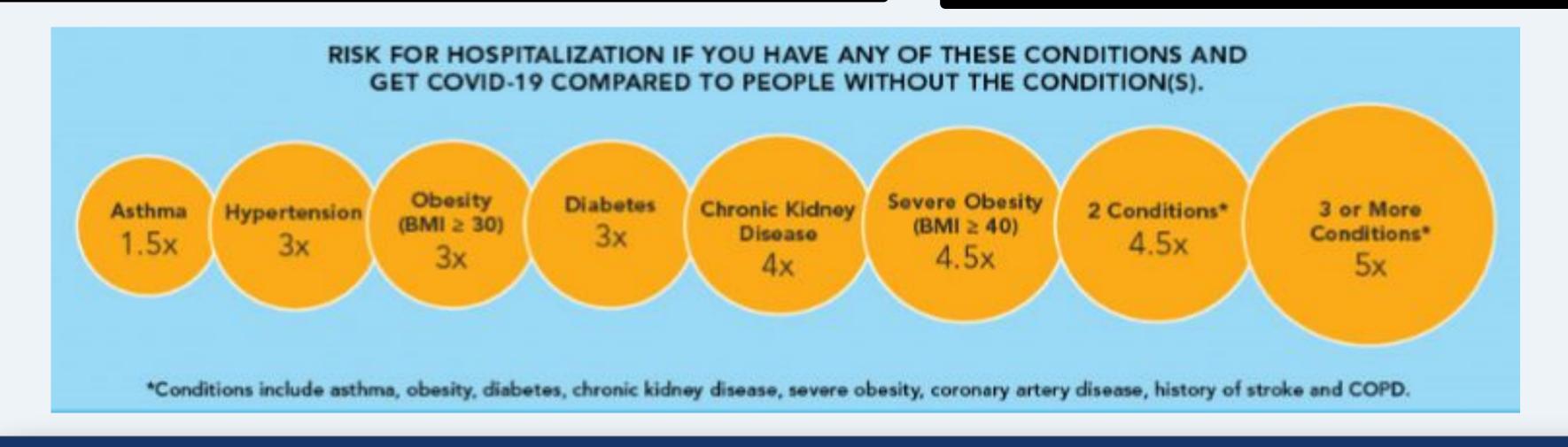
Brain issues: strokes & seizures, cognitive impairment from lack of oxygen, Guillain Barre syndrome, confusion, brain fog, encephalitis

Some patients make a full recovery, but for the "long-haulers", symptoms may persist for months, years, or be lifelong. Some examples of this are CFS/ME, which is incurable, along with conditions like pulmonary fibrosis which cause permanent/irreversible scarring.



Different Kinds of Testing

- Two main kinds of COVID tests are the viral (tests for current infection) and antibody (tests for past infection) tests.
- The molecular and antigen tests are both viral tests that can yield results in a few hours to a few days.
- Molecular tests are considered the most accurate.



Testing

- The at home saliva test and rapid COVID tests are additional forms of testing proven to deliver fast and accurate results.
- The rapid COVID test developed in Hong Kong is proven to deliver results with the accuracy of the PCR tests and quickness of antigen tests.
- Saliva tests promote more frequent testing that can be performed by yourself in the comfort of your own home.
- More frequent testing is encouraged to stop the spread of the virus.

