

VIRUS	LEVEL OF INFECTIVITY	TIME FROM EXPOSURE TO INFECTION	COMMON SYMPTOMS	PREVALENCE IN CHILDREN	VACCINE
COMMON COLD <i>Rhinovirus</i>	Less contagious Symptomatic individuals shed the virus during the first 2 to 3 days of infection	2 to 3 days	Cough, Low-grade fever Sneezing Sore throat	Common Most children experience 2 to 4 colds per year; frequently associated with asthma	None
SEASONAL INFLUENZA <i>Influenza virus (A and B)</i>	Contagious Spreading can occur 1 day before symptoms appear, peaking around day 3 of illness.	1 to 4 days	Body aches Chills Cough Fatigue Fever Headache Sore throat Stuffy nose	Common Children younger than 2 are at highest risk for more severe disease	Multiple approved
COVID-19 <i>Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)</i>	More contagious A person is contagious 2 to 3 days before symptoms appear, peaking around day 3 of illness.	2 to 14 days	Body aches Chills Cough Diarrhea Fatigue Fever Headache Loss of smell/taste Nausea/vomiting Shortness of breath Stuffy/runny nose	Common, and asymptomatic children are possible Typically children have mild symptoms	Vaccines and boosters approved for ages 6 months and older
RSV <i>Respiratory syncytial virus</i>	Very contagious Symptoms can last 7 to 10 days, but some kids can develop a cough that takes up to six weeks to clear	4 to 6 days	Cough Runny nose Sneezing Fever Wheezing	Common Infants are at high risk for severe disease, including pneumonia or bronchiolitis	None