



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

### **Do you know the differences between Flu and COVID-19?**

Influenza (Flu) and COVID-19 are both contagious respiratory illnesses, but they are caused by different viruses.

COVID-19 is caused by infection with a new coronavirus, and flu is caused by infection with influenza viruses. In addition, COVID-19 seems to spread more easily than flu and causes more serious illnesses in some people.

It also can take longer before people show symptoms, and people can be contagious for a longer time reports the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](https://www.cdc.gov) (CDC).

Another important difference is that while there is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19, there is a vaccine to protect against flu—and this year, getting your flu shot is more important than ever.

Don't delay, get your flu shot today.

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