

THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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Coronavirus Disease

Coronaviruses are a group of related viruses that cause diseases in mammals and birds. In humans, coronaviruses cause respiratory tract infections that can range from mild to lethal.



COVID-19 (coronavirus disease 2019)

COVID-19 (coronavirus disease 2019) is a disease caused by a virus named SARS-CoV-2. It can be very contagious and spreads quickly. Over one million people have died from COVID-19 in the United States.

COVID-19 most often causes respiratory symptoms that can feel much like a cold, the flu, or pneumonia. COVID-19 may attack more than your lungs and respiratory system. Other parts of your body may also be affected by the disease. Most people with COVID-19 have mild symptoms, but some people become severely ill.

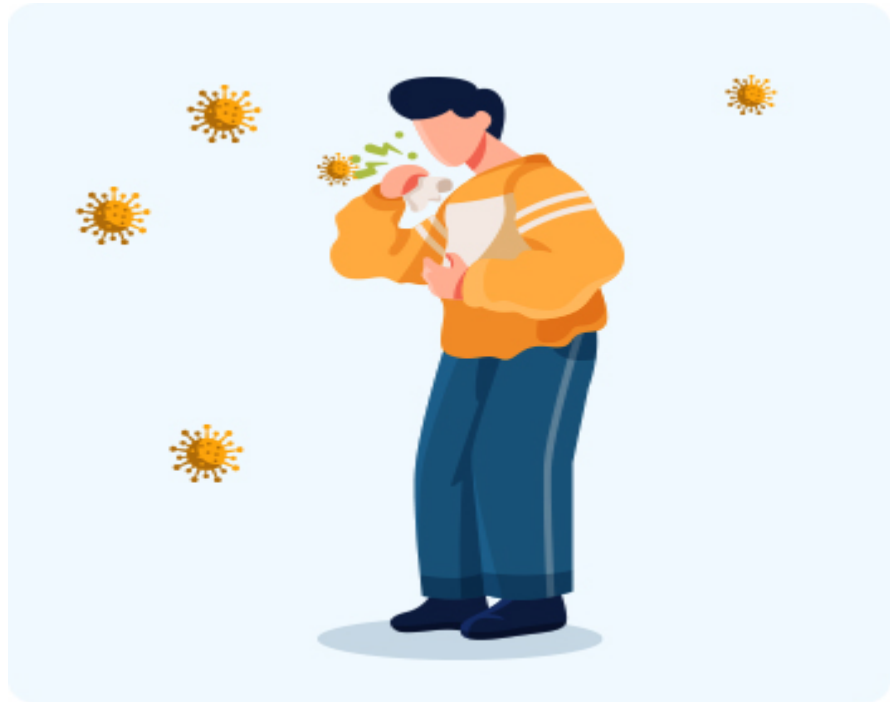
Some people including those with minor or no symptoms will develop Post-COVID Conditions – also called “Long COVID.”



Overview

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Most people infected with the virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment.



The COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown have shown both positive and negative effects on the environmental aspects. At an unprecedented rate, the different waste volume types have surged along with the COVID-19 contamination rate. As the situation has mandated people as well as the most infected persons to stay at home, the amount of generated hazardous waste is 3.40 kg which can be expected daily from each infected person. China and other countries have seen a massive increase in hazardous waste generation (about 600 % increase in Hubei province). While dealing with this sudden increase in waste, conventional incineration facilities have been outstripped, and the waste management industry is facing immense pressure over handling hazardous waste generated from COVID-19 infected patients. Alongside the dangerous waste volume, single-use plastic items and personal protective equipment (PPEs) have induced a new type of “PPE pollution” in the land and aquatic environment.

