

Ministry of Health

COVID-19 Reference Document for Symptoms

Version 6.0 – August 6, 2020

This document outlines the symptoms which have been most commonly associated with COVID-19. This information is current as of August 6, 2020 and may be updated as the situation on COVID-19 continues to evolve. If there is a discrepancy between this list and other guidance, this list should be considered as the most up to date.

Common symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- Fever (temperature of 37.8°C or greater)
- New or worsening cough
- Shortness of breath (dyspnea)

Other symptoms of COVID-19 can include:

- Sore throat
- Difficulty swallowing
- New olfactory or taste disorder(s)
- Nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain
- Runny nose, or nasal congestion – *in absence of underlying reason for these symptoms such as seasonal allergies, post nasal drip, etc.*

Other clinical features of COVID-19 can include:

- Clinical or radiological evidence of pneumonia

Atypical signs and symptoms of COVID-19 should be considered, particularly in children, older persons, and people living with a developmental disability.

Atypical symptoms and clinical features can include:

- Unexplained fatigue/malaise/myalgias
- Delirium (acutely altered mental status and inattention)
- Unexplained or increased number of falls
- Acute functional decline
- Exacerbation of chronic conditions
- Chills
- Headaches

- Croup
- Conjunctivitis

Atypical signs can include:

- Unexplained tachycardia, including age specific tachycardia for children
- Decrease in blood pressure
- Unexplained hypoxia (even if mild i.e. O₂ sat <90%)
- Lethargy, difficulty feeding in infants (if no other diagnosis)

Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C)

Information on this syndrome and its temporal association with COVID-19 is still emerging. As such, information on symptoms associated with MIS-C may evolve over time. Please see the [World Health Organization \(WHO\) Case Definition](#) or the [Canadian Paediatric Surveillance Program \(CPSP\) Case Definition](#) for diagnostic criteria.

Symptoms associated with this MIS-C may include:

- Persistent fever
- Conjunctivitis
- Gastrointestinal symptoms, such as nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, and abdominal pain
- Rash