JAMA Infographic

Coronavirus Disease 2019 and Influenza 2019-2020

Worldwide there is great concern about the emerging epidemic of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). However, most of the infections are in one part of China, and thus far the virus appears to pose limited threat outside of China.



COVID-19 in China

As of February 21, 2020

75 569 reported cases

75 467 (99%) of cases are in Chinese mainland

2239 deaths



COVID-19 in the US

As of February 24, 2020

14 cases diagnosed through US health care system

39 cases among repatriated US citizens

0 deaths

O critically ill case-patients

No evidence of community-wide COVID-19 transmission in the US

Influenza in the US

As of February 15, 2020, CDC estimates

At least 29 million ill patients

At least 13 million physician visits

At least 280 000 hospitalizations

At least 16 000 deaths

105 pediatric influenza-associated deaths reported to the CDC by state health departments

In contrast, the 2019-2020 influenza season in the US has been moderately severe to date, with large numbers of ill persons, and substantial numbers of hospitalizations and deaths attributable to influenza.

This season has been especially severe for children, with very high pediatric hospitalization rates. From a public health perspective, people should focus their attention on influenza and take preventive measures.



Get the flu vaccine



Avoid sick persons, especially those who are coughing



Wash hands frequently



In general, wearing masks in public does not prevent people from getting the disease. They may only be useful if you live with someone who is infected and the mask use is started immediately after the person has become infected.

Authors: Edward Livingston, MD; Karen Bucher, MA, CMI; Andy Rekito, MS Sources: 2019-2020 U.S. Flu Season: Preliminary Burden Estimates https://bit.ly/38YYd6O CDC weekly US influenza surveillance report. https://bit.ly/2w1fqON Coronavirus COVID-19 global cases by Johns Hopkins CSSE. https://bit.ly/39OiVpS Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in the U.S. https://bit.ly/38XXBhz JAMA Network coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) resource center. https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/pages/coronavirus-alert Image source: C. Goldsmith and D. Rollin/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Please cite as: JAMA. Published online February 26, 2020. doi:10.1001/jama.2020.2633

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