

Name:

Date:

Common Types of Coronavirus

Coronavirus are types of viruses. It is not just one virus! Coronaviruses are named for their crown-like spikes on their surface. Corona derives from ancient Greek or Latin and means "crowned". However, you may have seen the abbreviated or shortened name of HCoV- with a numbers and alphabets following it. The H stands for human. The "Co" stands for corona and the "V" stands for virus. The numbers that follow the HCoV are can represent many things including, but not limited to, the dimensions of the virus.

There are four types of common human coronaviruses. There are many different kinds and some cause diseases. The first coronavirus is Human Coronavirus 229E or HCoV-229E. This type of coronavirus infects humans and bats. They symptoms of this virus can range from a common cold, pneumonia and bronchiolitis, which results in blockage in the airways of the lungs. This coronavirus, along with other type of coronavirus, HCoV-OC43 and HCoV-OC43, are responsible for the common cold.

HCoV-OC43 is known to infect cattle and humans. It was first discovered in Melbourne, Australia in 2002. It started in three elderly homes. The symptoms included at least one of the following: cough, sore throat, rhinorrhea, which is when the nasal passage becomes filled with mucus.

HCoV-NL63 generally infects children under the age five, the elderly and those who are immune compromised or those whose bodies are not capable of fighting off infections and diseases due to a weakened system due to drugs or illness. Its original source is unknown. However, it first showed up in the lungs of seven year old child.

Lastly, is HCoV-HKU1, which is thought to have originated from mice and infected humans. All of theses are common types of coronavirus. With all of these, the elderly and the young and those who have a weakened immune system are more susceptible or likely to acquire or get coronavirus.

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1. List the four types of common coronaviruses.
2. What does HCoV stand for?
3. What is the origination of the prefix "corona"?
4. What is bronchiolitis and what effect can it have on person's life?
5. What are the sources of coronavirus?
6. Using the information you have gained about the sources of coronavirus, what would you recommend in the handling of animals?
7. Why do you suppose that the common types of coronavirus affect those who are young and elderly the most?
8. What symptoms do people who are infected with these coronaviruses share?