

Covid-19 - Glossary of Terms

Symptomatic: Patient presenting with symptoms, such as fever, cough, shortness of breath

Asymptomatic: Patient is having no symptoms (without symptoms)

SARS-CoV2: Name of the virus causing COVID-19 disease. Abbreviation stands for Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, Corona Virus type 2. Corona = crown.

COVID-19: Disease caused by SARS-CoV2 virus

Incubation period (stage): The initial stage of an infectious disease. The period between exposure to an infection and the appearance of the first symptoms.

Prodromal period (stage): The time when early signs and symptoms of a disease appear but are not yet clinically specific nor severe.

Convalescent period (stage): The period at which the symptoms begin to fade until patient recovers from the disease.

Viral shedding: Period when a virus replicates inside person's body and is released into the environment. It is also a phase when an individual is highly infectious and most likely to spread an infection.

Immunity: The ability of a person to resist a particular infection.

Antibody (Ab): Also known as immunoglobulin (Ig). A substance body produces to fight infection and inactivate foreign substances, such as toxins. There are five different types of Ab, namely IgA, IgG, IgM, IgE, IgD.

Influenza (flu) -like symptoms: Headache, fever, chills, fatigue, muscle pain, stuffy nose, cold-like symptoms, loss of appetite, diarrhea.

PPE: Personal protective equipment, such as gloves, mask, gown, cap, goggles, etc.

Sanitation: Maintaining personal and environmental hygiene

Droplet: A tiny drop, may come from human bodily fluids, such as saliva, nasal discharge, etc. Droplets are usually spread by coughing and sneezing.

Morbidity rate: A measure of how many people have an illness relative to the population

Mortality rate: A measure of how many people have died because of an illness relative to the population.

