

Symptoms

Cold

Flu

Allergies

COVID-19

Fever/chills

Rare

High (100-102 F), can last 3-4 days

Never

Common (100 F or higher)

Headache

Can be present

Intense

Uncommon

Sometimes

General aches, pain

Slight

Usual, often severe

Never

Sometimes

Fatigue, weakness

Mild

Intense, can last up to 2-3 weeks

Sometimes

Sometimes

Extreme exhaustion

Never

Usual (starts early)

Never

Sometimes (progresses slowly)

Stuffy/runny nose

Common

Sometimes

Common

Rare

Sneezing

Usual

Sometimes

Usual

Rare

Sore throat

Common

Common

Sometimes

Rare

Cough

Mild

Common, can become severe

Sometimes due to postnasal drip

Common

Shortness of breath

Rare

Rare

Rare, except for those with allergic asthma

In more serious infections

Loss of taste and smell

Never

Uncommon in adults, can be present in children

Never

Can be present

Itchy eyes, nose

Uncommon

Uncommon

Common

Uncommon

Diarrhea, nausea, vomiting

Never

Uncommon in adults, can be present in children

Never

Less common