

## **KNOW THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HEART CONDITIONS AND COVID-19**

### COVID-19 spreads fast. In some people it can start with mild symptoms and quickly progress to more severe disease.



## What is COVID-19?

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus.<sup>1</sup> If you are infected with the virus, you will most likely experience mild to moderate respiratory illness.<sup>1</sup>

Most people can expect to get better without needing special treatment, but some people can become very sick and require medical attention.<sup>1</sup>

## Are you at increased risk?

## **3 in 5** (60%)

adults in the United States have a chronic disease<sup>2</sup>



#### The older you are, the greater the chance of having at least one medical condition that can put you at high risk of getting very sick from COVID-19.<sup>3</sup>

The likelihood of having one or more such medical conditions increases by<sup>3</sup>:

10% TOT people up as including age 25 years for people up to and



for people up to and including age 50 years

for people up to and 66% including age 70 years



## You are more likely to develop serious illness from COVID-19 if you have a condition or risk factor like<sup>4</sup>:



This list does not include all possible conditions.

If you have diabetes, heart disease, lung disease, or cancer and you get COVID-19, **you are more likely to**<sup>4-8</sup>:

Get very sick	Be hospitalized	Need a ma help you l		Need intensive care	Die
The numbe high-risk m conditions have <b>incre</b>	nedical you	0	1x 1.5x		
<b>your risk o</b> from COVI		2-5		2.6x	
Number of high-risk medical conditions <sup>7</sup> Risk of death <sup>7</sup>		6-10	3.3x		
		10+		3.8x the risk of death	

### **COVID-19 and heart conditions**

If you have any of these heart conditions listed below, you are at high risk of getting very sick from COVID-19.<sup>4,6,9,10</sup>



#### CARDIOMYOPATHY

Any disease that affects and weakens the heart muscle<sup>11</sup>

#### **ISCHEMIC HEART DISEASE**

A condition in which the heart does not get enough blood and oxygen<sup>12</sup>

#### HEART FAILURE

A condition where the heart can't pump blood properly throughout the body<sup>13</sup>

#### **CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE**

A condition where the arteries that bring blood and oxygen to your heart become hardened and narrow<sup>14</sup>

## If you have heart disease, the older you are the higher the risk is of getting very sick with COVID-19<sup>15</sup>:



If you are **50 to 60 years old,** your risk is almost

**2x as high** as someone with heart disease who is younger than 50 years old.



If you are **60 years of age or older,** your risk is almost

3x as high

as someone with heart disease who is younger than 50 years old.



If you have high blood pressure<sup>15</sup>:

The **risk of getting very sick** from COVID-19 is almost

2x as high

have high blood pressure.

The **risk of death** from COVID-19 is almost

## 3x as high

as someone who does not have high blood pressure.

If you have **heart disease** and get COVID-19, **your risk of getting very sick and dying is almost double** compared with someone who does not have heart disease.<sup>15</sup>

# If you think you have been infected with COVID-19, remember to ACT fast.

Assess for COVID-19 symptoms and your risk factors

**Confirm** through COVID-19 testing

Talk to your healthcare provider about treatment options

Assess for COVID-19 symptoms and your risk factors like heart conditions If you have been exposed to COVID-19, you may start having symptoms 2 to 14 days after exposure.<sup>16</sup> COVID-19 symptoms can be similar to other infections, like the flu.<sup>17</sup>

If you have flu-like symptoms, it may be COVID-19.<sup>17</sup> Symptoms of COVID-19 can look like<sup>16</sup>:



Confirm through COVID-19 testing

#### If you have any COVID-19 symptoms, get tested as soon as possible.<sup>18</sup>

If you do not have symptoms but think you've been exposed to COVID-19, wait at least 5 full days after exposure and then test for COVID-19 infection.<sup>18</sup>



If your test result is positive for COVID-19, **do not delay**. Let your healthcare provider know as soon as possible, even if your symptoms are mild.<sup>19</sup>



If you find it hard to breathe, get **immediate medical attention**.<sup>9</sup>

Talk to your healthcare provider about treatment options

Rx

Treatment options, including authorized oral treatments for COVID-19, can be discussed to see if one is right for you.<sup>19</sup>



These treatments must be taken within days if you begin having symptoms.<sup>19</sup>



This is why it is so important to contact your healthcare provider as soon as possible.<sup>19</sup>

#### References

- 1. World Health Organization. Coronavirus disease (COVID-19). Accessed October 12, 2022. https://www.who.int/health-topics/ coronavirus#tab=tab\_1
- 2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Chronic diseases in America. Reviewed May 6, 2022. Accessed October 12, 2022. https://www. cdc.gov/chronicdisease/resources/infographic/chronic-diseases.htm
- 3. Clark A, Jit M, Warren-Gash C, et al. How many are at increased risk of severe COVID-19 disease? Rapid global, regional and national estimates for 2020. Posted April 22, 2020. Accessed October 13, 2022. https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.04.18.20064774
- 4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. People with certain medical conditions. Updated September 2, 2022. Accessed October 12, 2022. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html#:~:text=Older%20 adults%20are%20at%20highest,18%2D29%20years
- 5. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Basics of COVID-19. Updated November 4, 2021. Accessed October 12, 2022. https://www.cdc. gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/about-covid-19/basics-covid-19.html
- 6. European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. Risk factors and risk groups. Updated January 21, 2022. Accessed October 12, 2022. https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/covid-19/latest-evidence/risk-factors-risk-groups
- 7. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Underlying medical conditions associated with higher risk for severe COVID-19: information for healthcare professionals. Updated June 15, 2022. Accessed October 12, 2022. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-care/underlyingconditions.html
- 8. Gao YD, Ding M, Dong X, et al. Risk factors for severe and critically ill COVID-19 patients: a review. *Allergy*. 2021;76(2):428-455. doi:10.1111/ all.14657
- 9. World Health Organization. COVID-19: symptoms and severity. Updated April 18, 2022. Accessed October 12, 2022. https://www.who.int/ westernpacific/emergencies/covid-19/information/asymptomatic-covid-19
- 10. Goldman JD, Robinson PC, Uldrick TS, Ljungman P. COVID-19 in immunocompromised populations: implications for prognosis and repurposing of immunotherapies. *J Immunother Cancer*. 2021;9(6):e002630. doi:10.1136/jitc-2021-002630
- 11. UnitedHealth Group. Cardiomyopathy definition. Accessed November 8, 2022. https://justplainclear.com/en/term/cardiomyopathy1673
- 12. Institute of Medicine (US) Committee on Social Security Cardiovascular Disability Criteria. Ischemic heart disease. In: *Cardiovascular disability: updating the Social Security listings*. National Academies Press (US); 2010. https://nap.nationalacademies.org/initiative/committee-on-social-security-cardiovascular-disability-criteria
- 13. UnitedHealth Group. Heart failure definition. Accessed November 8, 2022. https://justplainclear.com/en/term/heart-failure769
- 14. UnitedHealth Group. Coronary heart disease definition. Accessed November 8, 2022. https://justplainclear.com/en/term/coronary-heartdisease2195
- 15. Bae SA, Kim SR, Kim M-N, Shim WJ, Park S-M. Impact of cardiovascular disease and risk factors on fatal outcomes in patients with COVID-19 according to age: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Heart*. 2021;107(5):373-380. doi:10.1136/heartjnl-2020-317901
- 16. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Symptoms of COVID-19. Updated August 11, 2022. Accessed October 12, 2022. https://www. cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html
- 17. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Similarities and differences between flu and COVID-19. Reviewed September 28, 2022. Accessed October 12, 2022. https://www.cdc.gov/flu/symptoms/flu-vs-covid19.htm
- 18. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. What to do if you were exposed to COVID-19. Updated August 24, 2022. Accessed October 31, 2022. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/if-you-were-exposed.html
- 19. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. COVID-19 treatments and medications. Updated August 5, 2022. Accessed October 12, 2022. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/treatments-for-severe-illness.html



