07:23 Owe 9 Ai

(uouuiy ULE LiUity Guu ULvoe watt

comorbidities), it may progress to

pneumonia, acute respiratory distress

syndrome (ARDS) and multi organ

dysfunction. Many people are

asymptomatic. The case fatality rate is

estimated to range from 2 to 3%.

Diagnosis is by demonstration of the

virus in respiratory secretions by

special molecular tests. Common

laboratory findings include normal/

low white cell counts with elevated C-

reactive protein (CRP). The

computerized tomographic chest scan

is usually abnormal even in those with

no symptoms or mild disease.

Treatment is essentially supportive;

role of antiviral agents is yet to be

established. Prevention entails home

isolation of suspected cases and those

with mild illnesses and strict infection

control measures at hospitals that

include contact and droplet

precautions. The virus spreads faster

than its twoa ancestors the SARS-CoV