

## The common cold (Lorber, 1996)

### Title

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/BF02642480#citeas>

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### Overall Focus

Cover various aspects of the common cold, including its history, epidemiology, causes, pathogenesis, clinical features, complications, treatment, and prevention. Key points include the viral nature of colds, the role of rhinoviruses as the primary cause, modes of transmission, lack of effective vaccines, limited role of antiviral medications, and the importance of symptomatic treatment and prevention measures.

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### Thesis

The common cold is a significant and underestimated infectious disease that deserves more attention and research, given its high prevalence, impact on public health, and economic burden.

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### How easily transmissible the common cold is

- Hand-to-hand transmission: Out of 15 people exposed, 11 became infected.
  - Large-particle aerosol transmission: Out of 12 people exposed, only 1 became infected.
  - Small-particle aerosol transmission: Out of 10 people exposed, none became infected.
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## Common Cold (Johns Hopkins

Medicine, 2023)

<https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/conditions-and-diseases/common-cold#:~:text=Children%20suffer%20more%20colds%20each,to%204%20colds%20a%20year.>

## How Do You Catch a Cold or the Flu? (Hughes, 2017)

<https://www.webmd.com/cold-and-flu/features/cold-and-flu-facts>

Provide general information about the common cold, including causes, symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, prevention and complications. Emphasizes that the common cold cannot be treated with antibiotics and preventative measures such as washing your hands and avoid contact with those who are infected.

It is important to take preventative measures like washing your hands and avoid contacted with infected people since the common cold cannot be treated with antibiotics.

Very easily spread through airborne droplets that are coughed or sneezed into the air/through contact with another person. Children get 6-10 colds per year while adults get 2-4 colds per year.

Explaining different ways of catching the common cold, how likely someone is to catch the cold once exposed, and how to prevent yourself from getting the cold.

Colds can be spread thorough tiny droplets in the air or direct contact, but you aren't guarenteed to get a cold after the first few days.

People are most contagious during the first 2-3 days of a cold, and a cold is usually not contagious at all after a week.

## How (Not) to Catch a Cold (Giddens, 2020)

[https://www.houstonmethodist.org/blog/articles/2020/d  
ec/how-not-to-catch-a-cold/](https://www.houstonmethodist.org/blog/articles/2020/d<br/>ec/how-not-to-catch-a-cold/)

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Cold viruses spread through respiratory droplets when infected individuals cough or sneeze, making others susceptible. While cold weather and close indoor contact contribute to increased cases during winter, viruses, not low temperatures, cause the illness. Contagiousness starts one to two days before symptoms appear, making prevention and hygiene crucial in minimizing transmission.

Despite these measures, exposure risk remains, especially in households with children, emphasizing the need for continued vigilance. Education and awareness are crucial in preventing the spread of infectious diseases.

- A closed space with little air circulation, such as a classroom, can pose a problem because an infected person — who is either in the classroom with you or had previously been in the same classroom — could have touched or left droplets on surfaces such as a desk or doornob.
- Other high-touch surfaces, especially nonporous ones, such as an escalator handrail or doorknob and door handles, are other likely places to encounter the viruses left behind by others.

