

# Is It Allergies, Cold, Flu, COVID-19 or RSV?

Symptoms	 Seasonal Allergies	 Cold	 Flu	 COVID-19	 RSV Bronchiolitis <sup>**</sup>
Stuffy or runny nose	Often	<b>Often</b>	Sometimes	Sometimes	Often
Sneezing	<b>Often</b>	Sometimes	Sometimes	Rarely	Rarely
Wheezing	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Rarely	<b>Often</b>
Itchy eyes	<b>Often</b>	Rarely, never	Rarely, never	Rarely	
Fever	<b>Never</b>	Sometimes	<b>Often</b>	Sometimes	Sometimes
Aches and pains	Never	Sometimes	<b>Often</b>	Sometimes	
Headache	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Sometimes	
Cough	Sometimes	Often	Often	Often	Often
Vomiting	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes
Warning time	<b>Symptoms occur after exposure to allergen</b>	<b>Gets worse over several days</b>	<b>Sudden onset</b>	Variable	Gets worse over several days
How long it lasts	Weeks to months	Usually 3-14 days	Usually 10-14 days	Usually 10-14 days	Usually 2-3 weeks
Diarrhea	Never	Rarely	Rarely	Sometimes	Sometimes
Loss of taste or smell	Never*	Never*	Never*	<b>Sometimes</b>	
Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing	Never	Rarely	Rarely	Sometimes	<b>Often</b>
Fatigue	Never	Sometimes	<b>Often</b>	Sometimes	
Sore throat	Rarely	<b>Often</b>	<b>Often</b>	Sometimes	

More common symptoms of each category are **bolded**.

\*Stuffy nose can temporarily alter smell and taste but these senses are not lost completely.

\*\*Occurs most commonly in children younger than 2 years old.



**NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S**  
When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.