

The difference between COVID-19 and influenza

Life Science, Biology

Lesson overview

In this lesson, we will focus on comparing the COVID-19 pandemic with common influenza, which is similar but has more serious complications, mainly due to its rapid and often unnoticed course. We will also find out what can be caused by the body's own immune system and finally, we will create an infographic about the course of the disease in the human body.

Lesson content

1. Comparison of the COVID-19 disease with common influenza
2. Cytokine storm
3. Learning activity

Keywords

virus, coronavirus, influenza, infectivity, hospitalization, mortality

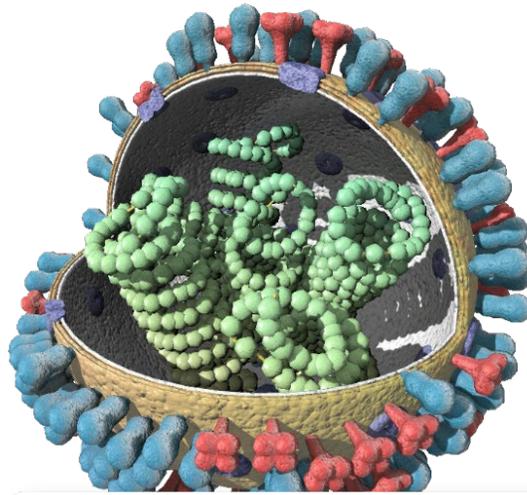
Lesson objectives

Students will be able to:

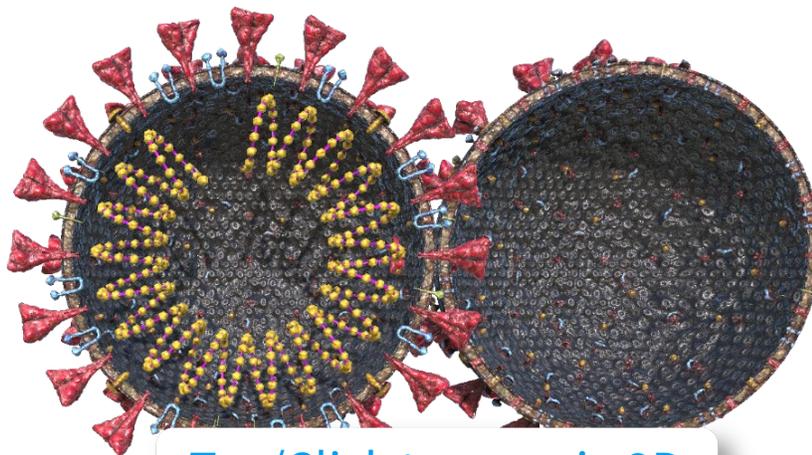
- explain the difference between influenza and COVID-19
- give examples of attacked organs
- describe the course of the COVID-19 disease
- evaluate the danger of a pandemic

1. Comparison of the COVID-19 disease with common influenza

Students will compare [influenza](#) and [coronavirus](#) viruses using their 3D models.



Tap/Click to open in 3D



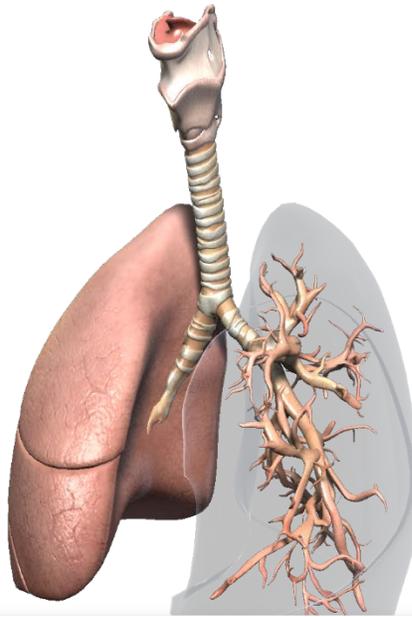
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When done studying, students will be able to answer the following questions

- What do both virions have in common?
- What does the "corona" in "coronavirus" mean?
- How can you protect yourself from the influenza infection?
- Do the same rules apply for protection from SARS-CoV-2?

This is followed by a revision of basic information about viruses.

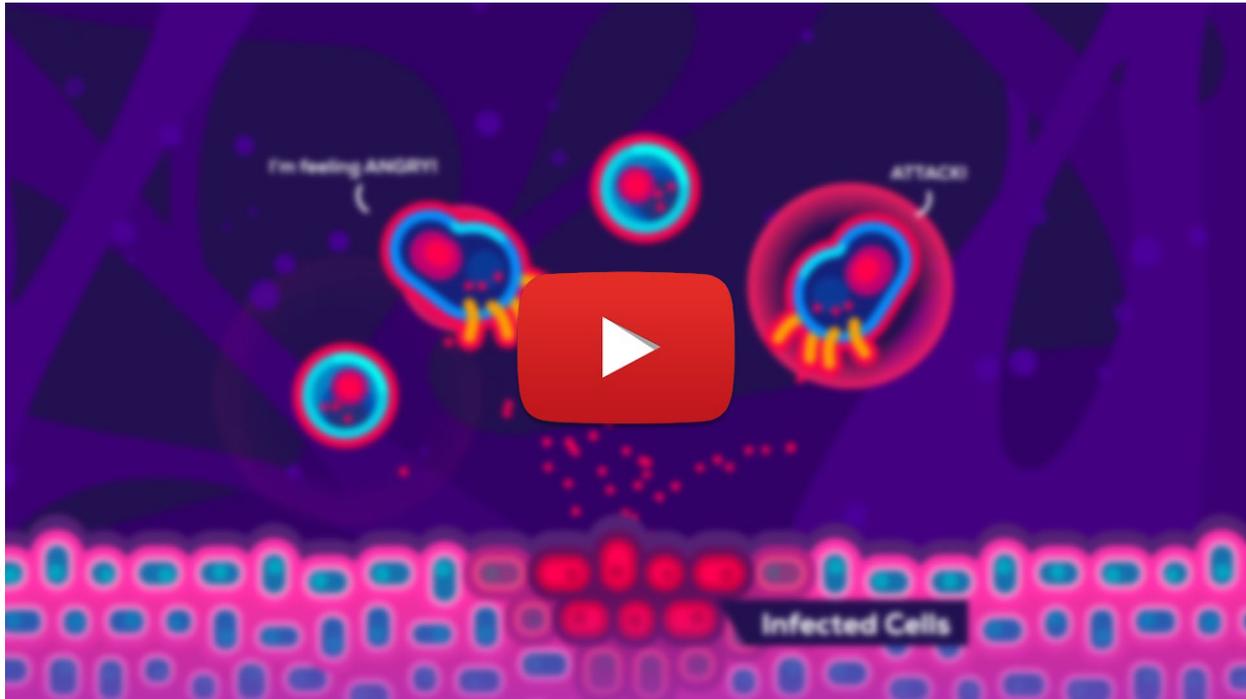
Students will then learn more about the signs and consequences of the coronavirus infection while exploring the [lower portion of the respiratory tract](#) 3D model.



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2. Cytokine storm

Then, with the help of the description and [video](#), they will learn more about the possible **exaggerated autoimmune response** to the infection, the so-called cytokine storm.



3. Learning activity

On the [Lifelique online](#) platform, students will search for models of other organs that can be attacked by COVID-19. Then they will take pictures of the models using the Share feature to create an infographic about the disease and present it.