When to Get Medical Care for COVID

WE CAN DO THIS

SAEM Society for Academic Emergency Medicine

Most people with COVID have mild symptoms and get better within a week or so. But some people get so sick that they need hospital care. They can even die.

Even if you're vaccinated, you may be more likely than others to get very sick from COVID if any of these apply to you:

- You're 50 or older
- You have one or more health issues, such as severe asthma; diabetes; obesity; or chronic heart, lung, or kidney conditions
- You have a compromised or weakened immune system

FDA-authorized or -approved treatment is available to help prevent severe illness

People who are more likely to get very sick need to start medical treatment for COVID right away after symptoms first appear.

Don't wait. It's important to get tested quickly if you have symptoms of COVID. Prescription treatments need to be started within days of when your symptoms begin.

Even if your symptoms are mild, treating your COVID early with medicine prescribed by a doctor or other authorized health care provider can make your infection less severe and help keep you out of the hospital.

It could save your life.

Learn more at cdc.gov/covidtreatment

When to get emergency medical care

Get emergency medical care (call 911) if you or someone you know has any of the following or has other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you:

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent chest pain or pressure
- New confusion
- Trouble waking up or staying awake
- Pale, gray, or blue-colored skin, lips, or nail beds, depending on skin tone

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