

[C-9] Facts on Viruses:
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Start of flu season officially begins the first of October and extends through February but can actually continue through May. And **any virus can be contracted anytime of the year.**

Colds and flu are not caused by cold weather. They spread more in the winter because people tend to stay indoors in more confined spaces and are in close proximity to infected people.

As of the first of March the Corona virus has infected about 100,000 resulting in 3,000 deaths primarily in China. The first known case was recorded on December 1, 2019 in China.

As of March 1, in America there have been 750 confirmed cases with 25 deaths.

According to the Center for Disease Control since October 1, 2019 in America there have been about 45,000,000 (45 million) infected with the flu resulting in about 46,000 (forty-six thousand) deaths prior to March 1.

On average 61,000 die of the flu each year in America.

According to the CDC flu vaccines are at best 30% to 40% effective.

According to the World Health Organization 290,000 to 650,000 people world wide die of the flu each year. [Estimates vary because most countries do not have the reporting capabilities of America.]

****Face masks do not protect against any virus.** Viruses are contracted through any exposed skin. The only ones who should wear a face mask are those who actually have a virus (or cold).

****So why are many officials now suggesting that everyone wear a face mask?** Because many may have the virus and not be aware of it. **The purpose of the masks is to protect against those who have the virus and do not know it.** So is there a way to be completely protected – Yes – wear a full HazMat {Hazardous Material} suit and fully decontaminate before removing the suit. So the question is, how scared are you? Would you even consider taking those steps? For **most people**, this virus is less severe than most flu viruses. See the highlighted section above.

In 2009 the first swine flu was detected in June, 2009.

The first swine flu vaccine was administered Oct. 5, 2009.

According to the CDC the swine flu caused an estimated 60.8 million illnesses and 12,469 deaths in America between April, 2009 and April, 2010.

According to the World Health Organization globally an estimated 151,700 to 575,000 people died from the swine flu in the first year.

A side note: all health care workers are required to come to work even when they are known to be sick. Most if not all hospitals require their nurses NOT to wear masks on duty even if they are known to be sick so that they do not scare the patients.

Running water and soap are the best defense against any virus or bacteria – hand sanitizers should only be used as a last resort when nothing else is available. The danger is that wide-spread use of hand sanitizers will only create more resilient viruses due to the improper use of those sanitizers!