### FAKE OR FACT CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

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### CLAIM: COVID-19 IS JUST LIKE THE FLU

- False: Big misperception even among Healthcare Providers
  - Covid-19
    - Spreads more rapidly
    - Mortality rate of about 1%, 10 times that of influenza (.1%)
    - Resulted in hospital rooms and ICU rooms over run
    - Run out of ventilators
    - Run out of supplies (face masks, PPE (personal protective equipment)
    - Run out of testing swabs, reagents, etc.
    - Why? No present treatment, no Vaccines

#### **CONCERNING VACCINES**

- Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) will have a Coronavirus working group soon
- The ACIP will be meeting "virtually" on Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>
  - Topic for 2020-21 seasonal influenza
  - Coronavirus vaccine: clinicaltrials.gov/.



ClinicalTrials.gov is a database of privately and publicly funded clinical studies conducted around the world.

### CORONAVIRUS VACCINES IN PROGRESS THE PRIVATE SECTOR IS WORKING WITH THE FEDS!

Several companies already had vaccine platforms targeting other coronaviruses and giving them a head start

Arcturus Therapeutics BioNTech CSL Behring Dynavax

GlaxoSmithKline Inovio Pharmaceuticals Johnson & Johnson

Moderna Novavax Pfizer Sanofi TranslateBio

- Two of these companies appear to be in the lead right now
  - Moderna initiated the first clinical testing in humans of an experimental COVID-19 vaccine (biotech's messenger RNA (mRNA) vaccine was developed in collaboration with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)
  - Inovio announced on April 6 that it had begun a phase 1 clinical study of experimental COVID-19 DNA vaccine INO-4800.

#### **TREATMENTS**

Several companies already have approved products, others have experimental drugs that have been included in testing for other viruses that could be effective, and some are scrambling to develop new therapies

Following are the companies that are developing or testing potential COVID-19 therapies

AbbVie Adaptive Biotechnologies Alexion Pharmaceuticals Alnylam Amgen

Bayer Biogen CSL Behring CytoDyn Emergent BioSolutions Gilead Sciences

Grifols Incyte Eli Lilly Novartis Regeneron Roche Sanofi Takeda Vanda Vir Biotechnology

- Three drugs with the potential to treat COVID-19 have received the most public attention
  - Remdesivir, which was originally developed to treat the Ebola virus
  - Chloroquine
  - Hydroxychloroquine

#### **TESTING AGENCIES**

- Abbott Labs Bayer Becton Dickinson
  BioMerieux Co-Diagnostics Danaher Eli Lilly
  Grifols LabCorp Health Quest
  Diagnostics Roche Thermo Fisher Scientific
- Roche and Thermo Fisher Scientific have committed to producing millions of COVID-19 tests.
- Abbott Labs recently launched the fastest COVID-19 test so far. (13 min)

## CLAIM: MOST PEOPLE ARE NOT ASYMPTOMATIC CARRIERS

- Verdict: inconclusive
  - A lot of people are without symptoms (maybe 25%)
  - Those are the ones that inadvertently pass the infection on to someone else
  - Data prompted the CDC to recommend face masks

N-95 (HCP)



Glasses or head shields protect the eyes



Or cloth

## CLAIM: THE VIRUS LIVES ON CERTAIN FOMITES

- True
  - COVID-19 live on inanimate objects for variable periods of time
    - Better on hard surfaces like stainless steel and certain types of plastic
    - Less on cloth and corrugated (cardboard)

Routine sanitizing frequently touched points of contact such a doorknob

and credit cards

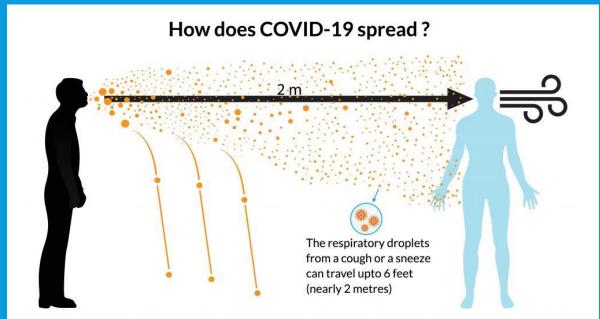


Wipe down all hard, nonporous surfaces thoroughly

Ranges from about 30 seconds to four minutes. This is when the germ-killing magic happens, so you can't rush it.

#### **CLAIM: THE VIRUS IS AIRBORNE**

- Verdict: Inconclusive (6ft?)
  - When the virus comes out of the respiratory tree, it's in droplet that may hang around for a several minutes
  - Princeton University and UCLA and CDC detected Covid-19,
    - 2 to 3 hrs.):.



# ONLY THE ELDERLY AND IMMUNOCOMPROMISED DIE FORM THE COVID-19 DISEASE

- False! Although most older people are infected and subsequently die from the disease
- Aged 65 or older, living in nursing home or long-term care facility
  - Immunocompromised or Heart disease
  - Hypertension COPD Diabetes
  - Chronic kidney and Liver disease
    - Severely obesity

- Every expert from the Wuhan Province say that young people do die
- Susceptibility might be influenced by genetics
  - Mortality is different in different countries
  - Rates lower in Germany than Italy
  - And new: Purple or blue lesions on their feet, most commonly in children and young adults ("COVID toes")

### AND FINALLY, WHAT REALLY ARE THE SYMPTOMS?

HTTPS://WWW.WEBMD.COM/LUNG/NEWS/20200428/CDC\_ADDS\_SIX\_SYMPTOMS\_TO\_COVID\_19\_LIST

- Initial list (The CDC website still indicates that symptoms appear within 2 to 14 days of exposure to the virus)
  - Fever
  - Sore throat
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.

- New symptoms added
  - Loss of taste or smell
  - Muscle pain
  - Chills
  - Headache
  - Dizziness
  - Tiredness
  - Diarrhea, nausea, vomiting

## I WILL KEEP YOU UPDATED AS TO ACIP DISCUSSIONS AND ISSUES

- The end of the stay-at-home orders doesn't mean the pandemic is over.
- It means they currently have room for you in the ICU

Questions/Comments

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Until then

