# IS IT THE FLU OR COVID-19?

Because both the flu and COVID-19 affect the respiratory system, it can be difficult to determine which you have if you start to feel sick. Learn more about common symptoms of each illness below.

## Flu

Symptoms typically come on suddenly and include:

**Fever or chills** 

Cough

**Sore throat** 

Runny or stuffy nose

Muscle or body aches

**Headaches** 

**Fatigue** 

## COVID-19

Symptoms can appear two to 14 days following exposure to COVID-19 and include:

**Fever or chills** 

Cough

Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

**Fatigue** 

Muscle or body aches

Headache

New loss of taste or smell

Sore throat

Congestion or runny nose

Nausea or vomiting

Diarrhea

#### What should I do if I think I have the flu or COVID-19?

Because there is some overlap between the symptoms, it may be difficult to determine whether you have the flu or COVID-19 without being tested. As such, if you believe you have the flu or COVID-19, please call your doctor and explain your symptoms *before* going to a facility to seek care.

#### How can I protect myself from the flu or COVID-19?

In addition to getting a COVID-19 vaccine and annual flu shot, you should practice social distancing, wear a face mask or covering, frequently wash your hands, avoid touching your face, avoid large crowds, and clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces to protect yourself from the flu or COVID-19.

