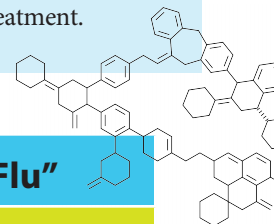
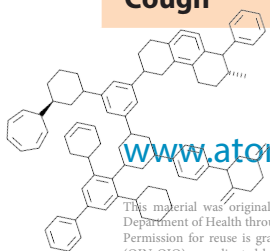


## Do you know the difference between stomach flu and influenza?

“Stomach flu” is a popular term but not the true medical diagnosis. The proper medical term for stomach flu is gastroenteritis. Sometimes people mistake symptoms of stomach flu or gastroenteritis for the viral infection we commonly call “flu,” that has symptoms of fever, congestion, muscle aches, and fatigue. Learn more about the stomach flu, the common cold and influenza so you can recognize flu symptoms and seek proper treatment.



Influenza vs. Common Cold vs. Stomach “Flu”	Seasonal Influenza	Common Cold	Stomach “Flu”
	Caused by Influenza A or Influenza B viruses	Many different kinds of viruses such as rhinovirus, coronavirus, adenovirus, etc. <b>NOT CAUSED BY INFLUENZA VIRUS</b>	Norovirus (or Norwalk-like viruses) is the most common; however, there are many causes of stomach upset. <b>NOT CAUSED BY INFLUENZA VIRUS</b>
<b>Prevention</b>	Yearly flu immunization protects against types of viruses most likely to make people sick. Wash hands with soap and water. Keep away from eyes, nose and mouth.	Cannot be prevented by immunization. Wash your hands with soap and water. Keep hands away from eyes, nose and mouth.	Cannot be prevented by immunization. Wash hands with soap and water.
<b>Involves whole body</b>	Usually	<b>Never</b>	<b>Never</b>
<b>Symptoms appear quickly</b>	Yes	No. Symptoms appear gradually	Yes
<b>Headache</b>	Yes, and can be severe	Rarely	Sometimes
<b>Chills, aches, pain</b>	Yes, and often severe	Rarely	Common
<b>Extreme tiredness</b>	Yes, and may last two to three weeks or more	Rarely	Sometimes
<b>Fever for Influenza and Common Cold</b>	Yes. High fever, beginning suddenly and lasting three to four days, is common	Sometimes	Rarely
<b>Cough</b>	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely



[www.atomAlliance.org](http://www.atomAlliance.org)

This material was originally created by the Indiana Immunization Coalition, Inc. and funded by the Indiana State Department of Health through a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Award No: 5H2311P000723). Permission for reuse is granted to atom Alliance, the Quality Innovation Network-Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO), coordinated by Qsource for Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Mississippi and Alabama under a contract with the CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES (CMS), a federal agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHS). Content does not necessarily reflect CMS policy. 16.SS.IN.B2.12.022

