

# UPPER RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTION SYMPTOMS COMPARISON

	Common Cold	Influenza	Pharyngitis	Allergic Rhinitis
Sudden Symptom Onset		•		
Tearing Eyes				•
Clogged Ears				○
Nasal Congestion	•			○
Runny Nose	•	•		•
Sneezing	•	•		•
Postnasal Drip	○			
Cough*	○	•		○
Sore or Scratchy Throat	•	•	•	○
Swollen lymph nodes (neck)			○	
Difficulty Breathing		•		
Headache	○	•	○	○
Body Ache	○	•	○	
Chills		•		
Fatigue*		•		○
Nausea/Vomiting		•		
Fever†	○	•	○	
Itching (may be anywhere)				•
Possible Complications	Bronchitis Ear infection Pneumonia Sinusitis	Pneumonia Encephalitis Meningitis Seizures	Ear infection Mastoiditis Sinusitis Peritonsillar abscess	

## NOTES

• Characteristic symptom ○ Symptom present in some patients

\*Cough and fatigue associated with influenza may persist for weeks

†Fever associated with the common cold is usually low-grade (100–102°F) and limited to children; fever associated with influenza is usually severe (102–106°F) and present in both adults and children

## REFERENCES

1. Common Cold. Available at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000678.htm>. Accessed November 27, 2012.
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4. Allergic Rhinitis. Available at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000813.htm>. Accessed November 27, 2012.

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