

# Colds and Flu

#### What is a Cold?

Common Cold (*Coryza*) is an acute condition that affects only the upper respiratory tract (mainly the nose). It is the most common respiratory disorder in many parts of the world.

### Signs and Symptoms of a Cold

Runny nose (with *clear* mucus); blocked nose; sneezing; sore throat; watery eyes; cough; headache (sometimes); and slight fever (sometimes).

#### What is the Flu?

Flu (*Influenza*) is also an acute and contagious condition that affects the respiratory system. It is often confused with the common cold, but flu is much more severe. Flu usually lasts for four to five days, but the complications can be longer lasting and more serious, especially with lung infections such as bronchitis and pneumonia.

### Signs and Symptoms of Flu

Fever and extreme coldness (chills/shivering/shaking); body aches (especially joints and throat); nasal congestion (with *yellow – green* mucus); runny nose; cough; headaches; fatigue; watery eyes; and diarrhea (usually in children).

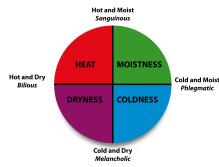
#### What Causes Colds and Flu?

The common cold and flu are due to infection from certain viruses.

Risk factors include exposure to cold and rainy weather, and an immature immune system, especially in children.

#### The Tibb View on Colds and Flu

According to Tibb, colds and flu are associated with **coldness with moistness** as they typically develop in cold months of the year. Symptomatically colds and flu presents with excessive mucous production such as a runny or congested nose, and productive coughing. Due to the weakened immune system, Physis is unable to prevent the virus infection, but actively fights it in order to restore the body back to health within 4 days (for a cold) or 21 days (for the flu). Although all temperamental types can be affected with colds and flu, people with a phlegmatic dominant/sub-dominant temperament are more at risk due to their innate qualities of coldness and moistness.



### Management of Colds and Flu

Treatment and management is aimed at **reducing the excess coldness with moistness** associated with colds and flu, by implementing Tibb Lifestyle Factors that will **increase the qualities of heat and dryness**. This assists Physis in addressing both the symptoms and the causes of colds and flu.

#### Tibb Lifestyle Factors

#### **Food and Drink**

- Eat **mostly Hot & Dry foods** such as chicken, oily fish, garlic and onion, **followed by**Hot & Moist foods like flavoured with spices like ginger, turmeric and black pepper.
- Eat less of Cold & Dry foods such as lemon, oranges and yogurt and the least amount of Cold & Moist foods - like milk, cucumber and rice.
- Avoid dairy products, margarine, fried foods and all sugars;
- Avoid solid foods for three days.
- Sip hot chicken, beef or mutton soup spiced with garlic, ginger, black pepper and salt for three days.
- Drink at least 2 litres of warm water per day.

#### Other Lifestyle Advice

- Remain as active as possible unless you have a fever in which case bed rest is strongly advised.
- Avoid exposure to cold and wet weather.
- Use steam inhalations to promote drainage and ease pressure. Use a pot of hot water and add a few drops of eucalyptus or rosemary oil. Put your face over the pot and cover with a towel. Breathe in deeply. Do this several times a day for 5-10 minutes.
- Massaging the chest and throat with a heating ointment such as Vicks, Puma balm or Blackseed Rub will ease congestion and help eliminate phlegm.

#### **Herbal Remedy**

- 2 grams fenugreek seeds, 1 gram cinnamon, 1 gram cloves, 2 grams fresh ginger. Boil in 2 cups of water until 1 cup remains. Strain and mix in 2 tsp of honey and drink. Repeat the same 3 times a day.
- Ginger and honey tea: Grate 2 cm piece of ginger to a pot of 2 cups of water. Bring to the boil, then add 1tbsp of honey. Drink it whilst hot.

# **Cold & Dry Foods**

Meats	Vegetables	Fruits	Nuts	Grains & Seeds	Dairy Products	Oils	Spices & Herbs	Drinks	Flavourants	Condiments & Spreads	Confectionary & Desserts	Cereals	Dishes
beef	brussel sprouts	(all sour fruits)	peanuts	barley	sour cream	coconut oil	basil	coffee		balsamic		cornflakes	sour dishes
biltong (beef)	cabbage	green apples		beans(all types)	egg white	corn oil	tamarind	ice		vinegar		maltabella	
crabs	cauliflower	cherries, coconut		corn	sour milk	sesame oil		sour fruit juices		peanut butter		mielie meal	
fish	eggplant	china/dry fruit		couscous	yoghurt			tea (black)		pickles		millet	
knuckles	green beans	granadilla		lentils						tomato sauce			
mussels	mushrooms	grape fruit		maize						worcestershire			
ostrich	peas	lemon, lime		mielies						sauce			
oysters	potatoes	naartjies, oranges		popcorn						vinegar			
pork	sauerkraut	pineapple,plums		poppy seeds									
snails	tomatoes	prunes, pomegranate		samp									
snoek		raspberries		sesame seeds									
tripe		strawberries											
tuna		sultanas											

## **Cold & Moist Foods**

Meats	Vegetables	Fruits	Nuts	Grains & Seeds	Dairy Products	Oils	Spices & Herbs	Drinks	Flavourants	Condiments & Spreads	Confectionary & Desserts	Cereals	Dishes
duck	beetroot	apricot	macadamia	cucumber seeds	coconut milk		cardamom	milk shakes	fructose		custard	pronutro	
rabbit	baby marrow	cranberries		linseed	cow's milk		coriander	rooibos	glucose		ice cream	rice crispies	
	butternut	figs		melon seeds	goats milk		cumin	sugar cane	rose syrup		sago		
	broccoli, carrots	kiwi fruit		pumpkin seeds	buttermilk		vanilla	juice		1			
	cucumber	litchis, melons		rice cakes	butter			water					
	squash	mulberries		rice	margarine								
	lady fingers (okra)	pawpaw, pears		semolina	rice milk								
	lettuce	prickly pears			soya milk								
	pumpkin	quince											
	radish, sprouts	spanspek											
	soya beans	sweet apples											
	tofu												
	zucchini												

# **Hot & Dry Foods**

Meats	Vegetables	Fruits	Nuts	Grains & Seeds	Dairy Products	Oils	Spices & Herbs	Drinks	Flavourants	Condiments & Spreads	Confectionary & Desserts	Cereals	Dishes
all small bird	bitter gourd	avocado	cashews	celery seeds	eggs	mustard oil	aniseed	alcohol	pungent and	chilli sauce			spicy dishes
meat	celery	grapes	hazel nuts	chickpeas			cinnamon	grape juice	bitter	mustard sauce			
chicken	green pepper		pecan nuts	fenugreek seeds			cloves, garlic	herbal teas	flavourants	peri-peri			
lobsters	leek		walnuts	gram flour			green/red chilli	(see herbs)		sauce			
mackerel	onion			mustard seeds			fenugreek						
oily fish	red pepper			papad			lavender						
pilchards	yellow pepper						nutmeg						
prawns							oregano						
sardines							paprika						
							parsley						
							rocket, rosemary						
							saffron						
							tarragon						

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Meats	Vegetables	Fruits	Nuts	Grains & Seeds	Dairy Products	Oils	Spices & Herbs	Drinks	Flavourants	Condiments & Spreads	Confectionary & Desserts	Cereals	Dishes
buck	artichokes	bananas	almonds	bread	clarified butter	castor oil	bay leaves	green tea	honey	mayonnaise	biscuits	all bran flakes	sweet dishes
goat	asparagus	dates	brazil nuts	bulgar wheat	condensed milk	olive oil	black pepper	hot water	molasses		cakes	bran	
goose	olives	guavas	pistachios	flour	cheese	sunflower oil	cayenne pepper	juices	salt		chocolate	honey smaks	
lamb	spinach	mangoes	apricot kernels	pasta	cream cheese		chives	(see fruits)	sugar		liquorice	muesli	
liver	spring onion	peaches		rye bread	mother's milk		ginger, fennel	herbal teas			vermicelli	nutri-k	
mutton	sweet potato	papaya		sunflower seeds	(for babies)		green masala	(see herbs)				nutrific	
turkey	turnips			wheat	fresh cream		marjoram					oats	
				macaroni			mint, sage					puffed wheat	
				dill seeds			soya sauce					taystee wheat	
							thyme,turmeric					weetbix	
							watercress						
							white pepper						