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18/MHS01/331

PHYSIOLOGY

ANA 202

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14/04/2020

Covid-19 is a respiratory disease caused by a virus called the coronavirus. The virus can affect your upper respiratory tract, which includes the nasal cavity and pharynx, or your lower respiratory tract which comprises of the larynx, trachea, bronchi and lungs. The coronavirus is transmitted via airborne droplets (aerosols), direct contact with infected nasal secretions or contaminated surfaces or objects. After contact, the virus needs to pass through an airway before a person gets infected. The viral particles in these droplets travel quickly to the back of the nasal passages and to the mucous membranes in the pharynx and attaches to a particular receptor in the cells. It could also come in contact with the mucous membranes that line the mouth and eyes. Covid-19 can range from mild to severe. Mild cases may have symptoms related to the common cold such as dry cough or a sore throat, while in severe cases, the lungs are affected which causes shortness of breath or difficult breathing. Once the virus passes through an airway and gets to the lungs, inflammation causes the air sacs (alveoli) to fill up with fluid. The fluid build up in the lungs can cause and abscess which means that the fluid collects in one area. A pleural effusion can occur meaning excess fluid is accumulated between the parietal and visceral pleural layers. If the fluid build up and infection get very severe, it can stop the lungs from doing their job. When the lungs are unable to add oxygen to the blood ans remove carbon dioxide at the correct levels, respiratory failure can occur.