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**Is Corona Virus a Teratogen?**

At this time, very limited data regarding risks associated with infection in the first and second trimesters exist. There are mixed data regarding the risk of congenital malformations in the setting of maternal fever in general. Currently, there are inadequate data on COVID-19 and if it is a teratogen.

**2**. **Impact of Aging in the outbreak of COVID-19:**

While COVID-19, the disease caused by the new coronavirus, can lead to hospitalization and even death for young and middle-aged adults, it has caused the most severe health issues for adults over the age of 60 — with particularly fatal results for those [**80 years and older.**](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/14/health/coronavirus-elderly-protection.html)This is due in no small part to the number of underlying health conditions present in older populations. Conditions like [**diabetes, heart disease**](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/12/health/coronavirus-midlife-conditions.html?searchResultPosition=1)**,** and other chronic illnesses can lead to more intense symptoms and complications in the disease. Additionally, as people age, their immune system gradually [**loses its resiliency**](https://www.aarp.org/health/conditions-treatments/info-2020/coronavirus-severe-seniors.html)**,** meaning that they are more susceptible to infection of any kind, especially a new one like COVID-19.

**Impact of Environment:**

To begin, the pandemic has led to the abandonment of many environmental sustainability programs - in the United States, smaller municipalities have [**halted recycling programs**](https://www.wastedive.com/news/recycling-mrfs-prison-labor-suspensions-coronavirus-covid-19/574301/) due to the risks associated with the spread of the virus. There has also been an increase in medical waste - much of the personal protective equipment that healthcare professionals are using can only be worn once before being disposed of. Hospitals in Wuhan, for example, produced [**over 200 tons of waste**](https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202003/11/WS5e681df5a31012821727df81.html) per day during the peak of their outbreak, compared to an average of less than 50 tons prior. Even if mass isolation were aiding in the reduction of climate change, it would not be a sustainable way of cleaning up the environment

Air pollution has dropped to unprecedented levels across the world as major cities and countries impose lockdown measures to curb the spread of the corona virus.

Furthermore, many have predicted that following mandatory lockdowns, countries will be focused on restarting their economies by funding industrial activities, while individuals will want to travel.These actions could reverse what beneficial environmental effects have arisen from the pandemic response.

**3. Spermatogenesis and oogenesis** are the processes of formation of male and female gametes. **Spermatogenesis** leads to the formation of sperms, whereas, **oogenesis** helps in the formation of ova. The fertilization of sperm and ova leads to the formation of a zygote which further develops into a embryo.

There appears to be some risk of premature rupture of membranes, preterm delivery, fetal tachycardia and fetal distress when the infection occurs in the third trimester of pregnancy. However, there is no evidence suggesting transplacental transmission based on very limited data, as the analysis of amniotic fluid, cord blood, neonatal throat swab, and breast milk samples available from six of the nine patients were found to be negative for SARS‐COV‐2. Whether virus shedding occurs vaginally is also not known.

Whether COVID‐19 increases the risk of miscarriage and stillbirth is unknown. Concerns have been expressed by experts in the media about women undergoing termination of pregnancy for fear of congenital infection and teratogenicity. However, information on the effect of COVID‐19 on the course and outcome of pregnancy in the first and second trimesters is not available yet.

**4. Personal hygiene in correlation to COVID-19**:

[Wash your hands](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XHISh559oho) frequently with soap and water, scrubbing for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

Don’t touch your face. This is a lot harder than it sounds and requires conscious effort. The average person touches their face [23 times an hour](https://www.ajicjournal.org/article/S0196-6553%2814%2901281-4/fulltext), and about half of the time, they’re touching their mouth, eyes, or nose — the mucosal surfaces that COVID-19 infects.

Cover coughs and sneezes with the inside of your elbow or upper arm.

Stay home if you are feeling sick, and seek appropriate medical guidance.

 Keep surfaces clean: Use the product right. First, clean dirt off of the surface. Then wipe the surface with disinfectant. Leave the surface wet with disinfectant for as many minutes as the product instructions require. This is a vital step that people often miss. It’s not enough to just wipe the surface and go.

Keep your distance. The number of people in any given location is important, but density is even more important. Respiratory droplets from a cough or sneeze can travel up to six feet and be inhaled into the lungs of people within range. Protect yourself by staying out of range.

**Disasters in correlation to COVID-19:**

The damage the global outbreak will do to the African economy in the medium term may be far more severe than its health impact. In the current situation, negative trends in stock markets, commodity prices, the value of national currencies and interest rates, as well as the blocking/reduction of international circulation are the main factors triggering a global economic crisis.