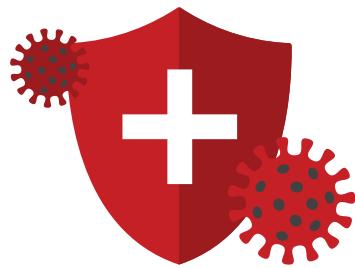
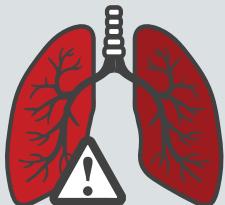


COVID-19 and Smoking



The CDC has warned that people who smoke may be a higher risk for COVID-19 infections.¹ Some research has also shown that people who smoke and develop COVID-19 infections are at greater risk of serious complications, including death.⁶

Know the Risks



Lung Disease. Scientists examined 61 studies among patients with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), also known as emphysema. These reports showed that individuals with COPD who developed COVID-19 are at increased risk for severe illness, including death.⁵

More than 80% of COPD is directly caused by smoking cigarettes. The Surgeon General has also documented that smoking weakens and inflames lungs.³ Smoking puts people at risk of many respiratory-track infections.^{2, 3}



If you smoke, the best way to protect your lungs is to quit. Quitting reduces the risk of lung infections, including pneumonia and bronchitis. It may also reduce the risk of developing COVID-19 and developing more severe complications from COVID-19.^{1, 6}

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Thermometer graphic by rawpixel.com. Other graphics and content courtesy of the Florida Department of Health.

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“The best thing you can do for your lungs and your health in general is to quit smoking,” said Dr. Michael Fiore. “The Quit Line offers free help.”