

# SUMMARY OF COVID 19 IMAGING

- ⇒ **DEFINITION:** COVID-19 (coronavirus disease 2019) is an infectious disease caused by **severe acute respiratory syndrome**.
- ⇒ **1<sup>st</sup> case:** Wuhan, China **Dec 2019**  
→ spread all over the world as **pandemic**.
- ⇒ **Incubation Period:** 5 : 14 days
- ⇒ **TTT or vaccine :** **Non up till now**
- ⇒ **Mortality rate:** 2-3 %
- ⇒ **Diagnosis :**
  - ✓ **Definitive test** → PCR (false negatives are a real clinical problem)

**COVID-19 =**  
**Corona Virus Disease-19**  
**SARS-CoV-2**  
**Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2**

Several negative tests might be required in a single case to be confident to exclude

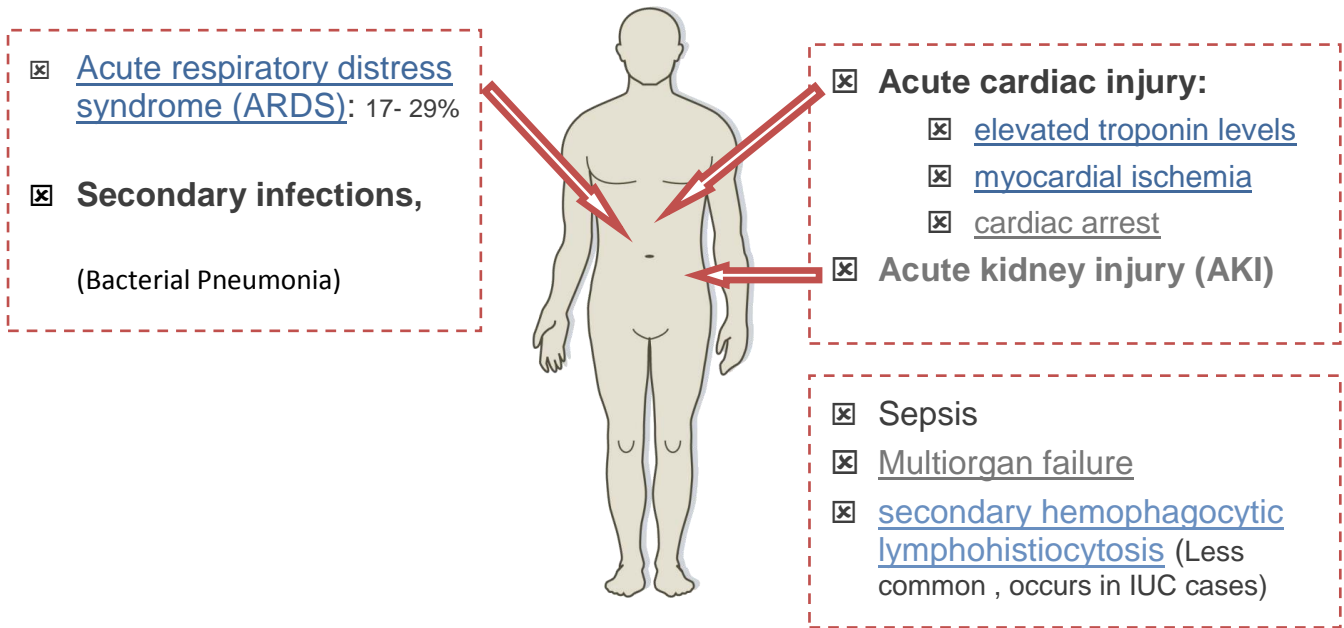
- ✓ **Lab :** [lymphopenia](#) / increased [prothrombin time \(PT\)](#) / increase [lactate dehydrogenase](#)

NB: Epidemiological parameters of any new disease are likely to change as larger cohorts of infected people are studied,

COVID 19	CLINICAL PICTURE		Generally Non specific
	Common > 20%	Less common 10-15%	Rare
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <a href="#">Fever</a></li> <li>✓ <a href="#">Cough</a></li> <li>✓ <a href="#">Fatigue</a></li> <li>✓ <a href="#">Sputum production</a></li> <li>✓ <a href="#">Dyspnoea</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>85-90%</li> <li>65-70%</li> <li>35-40%</li> <li>30-35%</li> <li>15-20%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ <a href="#">Myalgia/arthralgia</a></li> <li>⇒ Headaches</li> <li>⇒ Sore throat</li> <li>⇒ Chills</li> <li>⇒ <a href="#">Pleuritic pain</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. nausea, vomiting, &lt;10%</li> <li>2. Nasal congestion &lt;10%</li> <li>3. Diarrhea &lt; 5%</li> <li>4. <a href="#">Palpitations</a>,</li> <li>5. Chest tightness</li> </ul>
<div style="border: 2px dashed red; padding: 10px; margin: 0 auto; width: 80%;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>Children</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Relatively unaffected by this virus,</li> <li>⇒ Infants <u>under 12 months</u> likely to be more seriously affected.</li> <li>⇒ Incubation period shorter than in adults, (about <b>2 days</b>)</li> <li>⇒ Presentation in children is milder than in Adults</li> </ul> </div>			

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### ➔ Complications :



## COVID 19 IMAGING:

Medical Imaging Staff are

**In the frontline** in dealing with COVID-19,  
Clear infection control guidelines are a must.

- ✓ Modalities: CXR , CT
- ✓ **In COVID 19, Imaging is:**
  - ✓ Not indicated in suspected case with mild symptoms
  - ✓ Indicated as Respiratory symptoms worse.
  - ✓ Has limited sensitivity for COVID-19 diagnosis ,

### ➔ CT Protocol :

- ✓ **Non contrast CT chest** "Unless indicated to specific cause" eg. angio
- ✓ **0.625-mm to 1.5-mm** slice thickness (gapless)

COVID 19 has NO  
PATHOGNOMONICS

### ➔ IMAGING FINDING

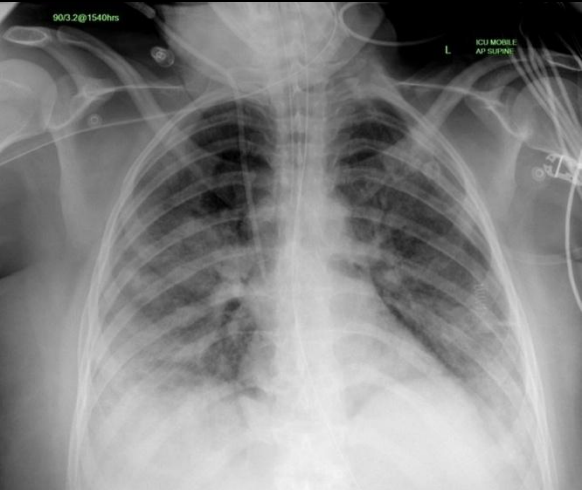
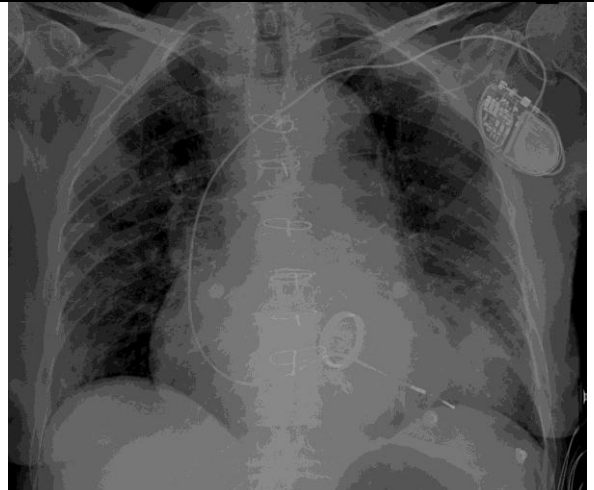
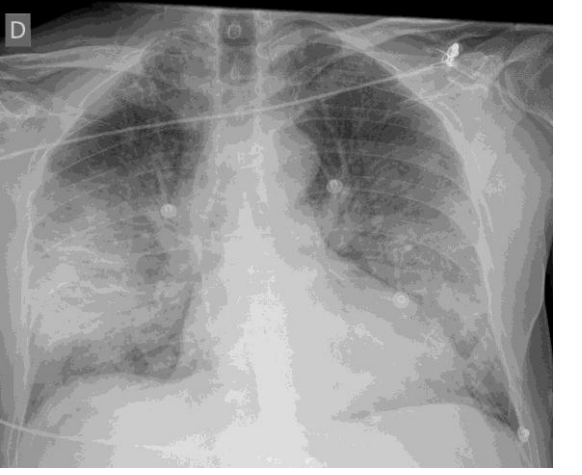
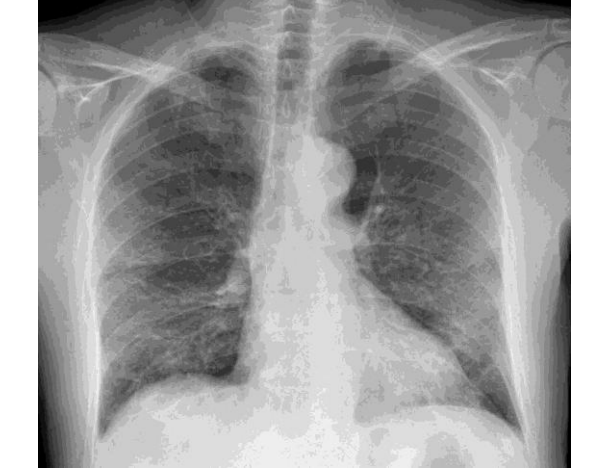
Bilateral &/or Multilobar  
involvement is common

**CXR or CT → Normal**

- Up to **18%** in mild or early disease
- Only **3%** in severe disease.

➔ CXR :

- 1<sup>st</sup> line of imaging.
- Less sensitive than chest CT
- Use of portable radiography units is preferred.
- ✓ **Normal** : in early or Mild cases
- ✓ **The most frequent findings** :
  - Airspace opacities : bilateral, peripheral, & lower zone predominant
  - Pleural Effusion : **Rare**

	
<p>Patchy areas of air space opacification bilaterally with a lower zone predominance.</p>	<p>consolidation at both lung bases as well as in the peripheral mid zones. The heart is enlarged</p>
	
<p>Bilateral ground-glass alveolar consolidation with peripheral distribution</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➔ No significant findings reported.</li> <li>➔ Subtle ground-glass pattern can be seen in both lungs, with peripheral distribution.</li> </ul>

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⇒ **CT** : ( 4 stages in duration / 4 Categories in reporting )

CT findings had the highest discriminatory value:

- ✓ Peripheral distribution
- ✓ Ground-glass opacity
- ✓ Broncovascular thickening (with in lesions)

⇒ **Primary CT Finding:**

- ✓ Ground-glass opacities (GGO): Bilateral, subpleural, peripheral & Basal
- ✓ Crazy paving appearance (GGOs and inter-/intra-lobular septal thickening)
- ✓ Consolidation
- ✓ Bronchovascular thickening in the lesion
- ✓ Traction bronchiectasis

### 4 Stages of CT Finding

Early/initial stage (0-4 days)	Progressive stage (5-8 days)	Peak stage (9-13 days)	Absorption stage (>14 days)
Normal CT or GGO only	-increased GGO and crazy paving appearance	Consolidation	- improvement in the disease course, - "Fibrous stripes" appear
Abnormalities resolve at one month and beyond			

⇒ **Atypical CT Finding:**

(Adenopathy / Pleural Effusion / Cavity / Nodules / Pneumothorax/ tree in bud)

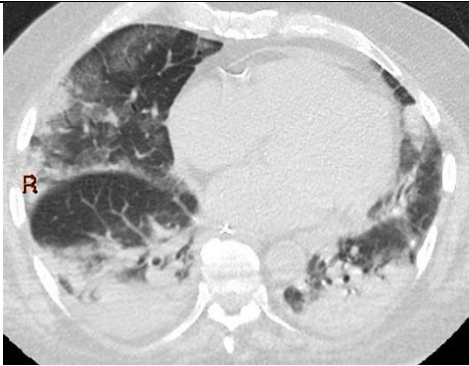
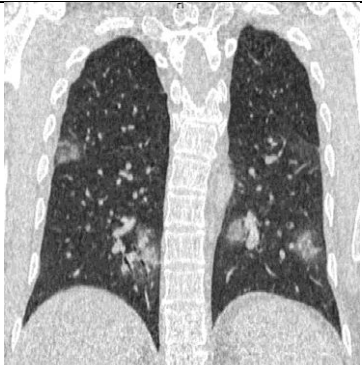

Only seen in a small minority of patients

<b>COVID-19</b>	
<b>Typical findings</b>	<b>Atypical findings</b>
Multifocal groundglass opacities	Central or peribronchovascular
Peripheral and basal distribution	More apical distribution
Unsharp demarcation	Lymphadenopathy *
Vascular thickening	
Round	<b>Very Atypical</b>
Crazy paving	Cavitation - calcification
Ground glass and Consolidations	Tree-in-bud, bronchiolitis
(Reversed) halo	Nodular pattern
Spider web	Mass
	Pleural thickening


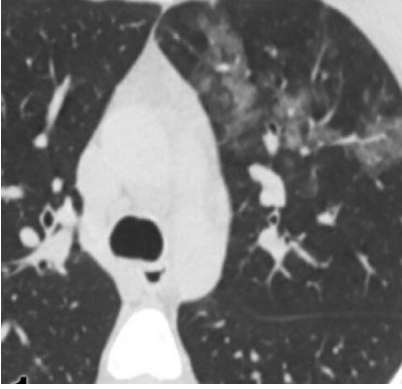
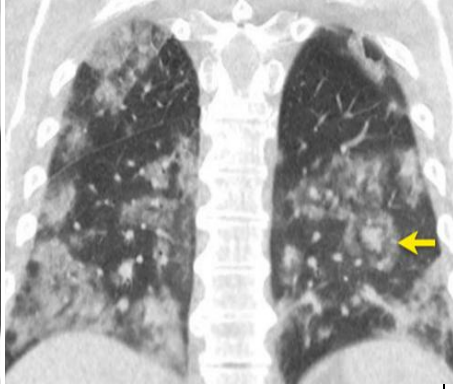
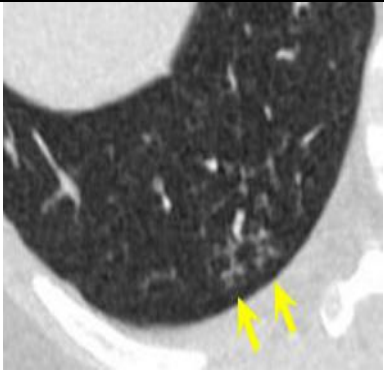
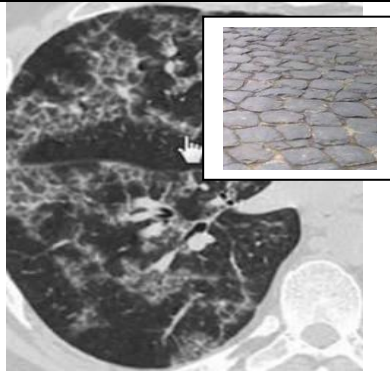

➔ **Radiology Report ( 4 Categories)**

[Radiological Society of North America \(RSNA\)](#) ,[Society of Thoracic Radiology](#) and the American College of Radiology (ACR) that classifies the CT appearance of COVID-19 into **4 categories** for standardized reporting language :

	Typical	Intermediate	Atypical	Negative
<b>GGO</b>	-Peripheral, bilateral, more basal or -Multifocal, Round	-Few, very small Non rounded Non peripheral	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Conolidation</b>	+/-	-Non Rounded -Non peripheral	- Isolated - Lobar or segmental	<b>No</b>
<b>Reverse halo Sign</b>	+/-	No	No	-
<b>Crazy Pavin</b>	+/-	No	No	-
			<b>Others :</b> -Small Nodules -Tree in bud - Effusion	

		
-Multifocal consolidation and ground-glass opacifications. - Peripheral and basal predominance	Multiple patchy ground glass opacities and consolidations are scattered in both lungs predominantly at subpleural	Bilateral large areas of ground-glass opacities with crazy paving and, more evident at both bases, areas of consolidation

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<p><b>Consolidation</b></p> <p>Notice air bronchogram with in</p>	<p><b>Ground Glass Opacity</b></p> <p>Area of hazy increased lung opacity, ground glass = الزجاج المصنفر</p>	<p><b>Halo Sign</b></p> <p>Ground-glass opacity surrounding a nodule or mass</p>
		
<p><b>Tree In Bud</b></p> <p>dilated bronchioles, thick walled &amp; filled with exudate</p>	<p><b>Crazy paving</b></p> <p>thickened interlobular septa and intralobular lines on a background of ground-glass opacity,</p>	<p><b>Traction Bronchiectasis</b></p> <p>Irreversible dilatation of bronchi and bronchioles within areas of pulmonary fibrosis or distorted lung parenchymal architecture.</p>

## CO-RADS classification & Reporting

CO-RADS*			CT-Report	
Level of suspicion COVID-19 infection				
		CT findings		
<b>CO-RADS 1</b>	No	normal or non-infectious abnormalities	<b>Duration of complaints</b>	in days
<b>CO-RADS 2</b>	Low	abnormalities consistent with infections other than COVID-19	<b>CT findings</b>	GGO - consolidation - distribution Crazy paving (Reversed) halo - spider web sign Vascular thickening Pleural fluid Enlarged lymph nodes etc
<b>CO-RADS 3</b>	Indeterminate	unclear whether COVID-19 is present	<b>CORADS</b>	Determine level of suspicion COVID-19
<b>CO-RADS 4</b>	High	abnormalities suspicious for COVID-19	<b>CT severity score</b>	
<b>CO-RADS 5</b>	Very high	typical COVID-19	<b>Additional findings</b>	co-morbidity
<b>CO-RADS 6</b>	PCR +		<b>Conclusion</b>	CORADS Severity

**SOURCES:**

- ✓ <https://radiopaedia.org/articles/covid-19-3?lang=us>
- ✓ <https://radiopaedia.org/search?lang=us&q=covid+19>
- ✓ <https://radiologyassistant.nl/chest/covid-19-corads-classification>
- ✓ **CHEST IMAGING WHAT EVERY RADIOLOGIST SHOULD KNOW**

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