KNOW THE DIFFERENCE
CORONAVIRUS VS INFLUENZA

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

VS

INFLUENZA (FLU)

- Confirmed Cases in the U.S.
- Caused by one virus, the novel 2019 CORONAVIRUS, now called severe acute respiratory syndrome CORONAVIRUS 2, or SARS-COV-2.

- Over 45 million illnesses in the U.S. per year.
- Cause by any of several different types and strains of influenza viruses.

SIMILARITIES

Symptoms:

Both cause fever, cough, body aches, fatigue; sometimes vomiting and diarrhea.
Can be mild or severe, even fatal in rare cases.
Can result in pneumonia.

Transmission:

Both can be spread from person to person through droplets in the air from an infected person coughing, sneezing or talking.

Treatment / Prevention

Neither virus is treatable with antibiotics, which only work on bacterial infections.
Both may be prevented by frequent, through hand washing, coughing into the crook of your elbow, staying home when sick and limiting contact with people who are infected.

DIFFERENCES

Transmission:

While both the flu and COVID-19 may be transmitted in similar ways, there is also a possible difference: COVID-19 might be spread through the airborne route, meaning that tiny droplets remaining in the air could cause disease in others even after the ill person is no longer near.

Vaccines:

COVID-19: No vaccine is available at this time, though it is in progress.
Flu: A vaccine is available and effective to prevent some of the most dangerous types or to reduce the severity of the flu.

Onset:

COVID-19: 2-14 days after exposure
Flu: 2 days after exposure