COVID-19 Fact Sheet

Virology and Immunology

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How does SARS-CoV-2 infect our cells?

The SARS-CoV-2 virus is covered in spike proteins

The spikes attach to a receptor called ACE2 on the cell

Once the virus attaches to ACE2, it enters the cell

What increases risk of infection?

- Older Age
- Heart Conditions
- Lung Conditions
- Diabetes
- Immunosuppressants

Why do some patients have a more severe course than others?

- Genetic Factors
- Metabolic Factors
- Risk of Bleeding
- Risk of Clotting
- Immune System Variations

What happens after we fight the infection?

Antibodies against SARS-CoV-2 will likely prevent reinfection

Scientists don’t yet know how long these antibodies last

We will learn how different immune cells fight SARS-CoV-2

Sources: