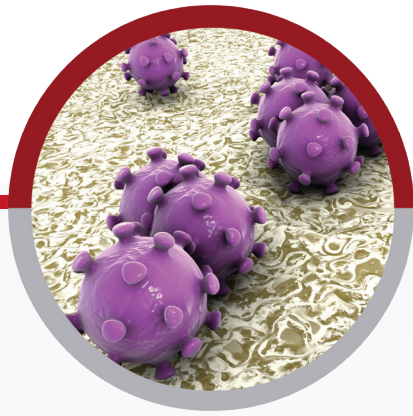


# ADENOVIRUS UPDATE



Viruses are obligate intracellular parasites that require living host cells to grow and reproduce. Adenovirus is not new, but with recent attention regarding severe outbreak situations associated with death, the need for review and understanding should be emphasized.

## What Is Adenovirus?

Adenovirus, a DNA virus, was first isolated in the 1950s in adenoid tissue–derived cell cultures, hence the name. There are 52 different types of adenovirus. Types 1,2,3 and 5 are most common (type 3 more prevalent during cold weather). Adenovirus is a hardy, non-enveloped virus which means it does not have an outer lipid layer (non-lipid virus) and may be more difficult to kill with low level disinfectants.

## What Infections Are Associated With Adenovirus?

Adenoviruses are common viruses that cause a range of illness. They can infect the membranes (tissue linings) of the respiratory tract, eyes, intestines, urinary tract, and nervous system. You can get an adenovirus infection at any age. Adenoviruses can cause mild to severe illness, though serious illness is less common. They account for about 10% of fever-related illnesses and acute respiratory infections in children and are a frequent cause of diarrhea. Most infect the airways and cause cold-like symptoms, sore throat, laryngitis, bronchitis or the croup, and pink eye (conjunctivitis). Complications can include middle ear infections, pneumonia, or meningitis, especially in young children, the elderly, & those who are immunocompromised. People with weakened immune systems or existing respiratory or cardiac disease are at a higher risk of developing severe illness from an adenovirus infection.

## How Is Adenovirus Transmitted?

It can be transmitted by direct contact, airborne droplets, fomites, fecal-oral, or direct inoculation (i.e. finger to nose, finger to eye) in humans. Adenoviruses are usually spread from an infected person to others through close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands, through the air by coughing and sneezing, or via direct contact by touching an object or surface contaminated with adenovirus and then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes before washing your hands. Some adenoviruses can spread through an infected person's stool. Adenovirus can survive for a long time on surfaces and objects.

## How Long Are You Contagious?

For respiratory infections, symptoms usually appear 2–14 days after exposure to the virus. For intestinal tract infections, symptoms usually appear 3–10 days after exposure to the virus. Sometimes the virus can be shed (released from the body) for a long time after a person recovers from an adenovirus infection, especially among people who have weakened immune systems. This “virus shedding” usually occurs without any symptoms though the person can still spread adenovirus to other people.



## Infection Prevention And Control Practices:

There is no specific treatment for people with adenovirus infection but you can protect yourself and others from adenoviruses and other respiratory illnesses by following a few simple steps:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick

## Is My Disinfectant Effective Against Adenovirus?

Adenovirus is extremely hardy when deposited on environmental surfaces and may be recovered from plastic and metal surfaces for more than 30 days. Thus the elimination of adenovirus from inanimate surfaces is essential in preventing outbreaks. Frequent cleaning and disinfection with products with an Adenovirus claim will help reduce/eliminate contamination of the virus on environmental surfaces.

## SUGGESTED PDI PRODUCTS



## The Following PDI Products Have Demonstrated Efficacy Against Adenovirus:

- **Sani-Cloth**<sup>®</sup> Bleach Germicidal Disposable Wipes: Adenovirus type 2 [ATCC VR-846], Adenoid 6 Strain
- **Sani-Cloth Prime/Sani-Prime**<sup>®</sup> Germicidal Disposable Wipes and Spray: Adenovirus type 5 [ATCC VR-5]
- Super **Sani-Cloth** Germicidal Disposable Wipes: Adenovirus type 5 [ATCC VR-5]
- **Sani-Cloth AF3** Germicidal Disposable Wipes: Adenovirus type 5 [Strain Adenoid 75] [ATCC VR-5]
- **Sani-Cloth HB** Germicidal Disposable Wipes: Adenovirus type 2 (VR-846)

### References:

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