

# COVID-19 STYLE SHEET

## A

**Alpha variant**, recommended by the WHO for the SARS-CoV-2 variant first isolated in the United Kingdom [for a complete list, see [Tracking SARS-CoV-2 variants \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int/tracking-info/sars-cov-2-variants)]

**antiseptics**, like hand sanitizer, are used to kill germs on living things. *Disinfectants*, like bleach, are used on inanimate things

## B

**Beta variant**, recommended by the WHO for the SARS-CoV-2 variant first isolated in South Africa [for a complete list, see [Tracking SARS-CoV-2 variants \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int/tracking-info/sars-cov-2-variants)]

## C

**cases**, use “known cases” or “confirmed cases” to emphasize the message of personal responsibility (not just “cases”)

**CDC**, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**CFR**, case fatality rate (no. of deaths/no. of confirmed cases)

**coronavirus**, any of the Coronaviridae family of viruses that are the causative agents of MERS, SARS, and COVID-19

**COVID-19**, the name of the disease caused by the virus SARS-CoV-2, short for coronavirus disease 2019

## E

**epidemic**, an outbreak of disease in excess of normal expectancy

## H

**health care** (2 words for both AMA and AP style)

## I

**IFR**, infection fatality rate (no. of deaths/no. of infections with SARS-CoV-2)

## M

**MERS**, Middle East Respiratory Syndrome

**MERS-CoV**, the coronavirus that is the causative agent of MERS

## P

**pandemic**, occurring over a wide geographic area and affecting an exceptionally high proportion of the population (the WHO declared the global COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic on March 11, 2020)

**PPE**, personal protective equipment



## R

**R**, reproduction number of an infectious disease (the average number of cases who are infected by a single infected individual)

**R<sub>0</sub>**, the reproduction number in a population that has not previously encountered a disease

## S

**SARS**, severe acute respiratory syndrome

**SARS-CoV**, the coronavirus responsible for the SARS outbreak of 2003

**SARS-CoV-2**, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2, the virus responsible for the current pandemic

**shelter in place** (verb), shelter-in-place (adj)

**social distancing**

**stay at home** (verb), stay-at-home (adj)

## V

**ventilator**, Patients are maintained on artificial respiration by means of mechanical ventilators. Avoid the jargon “vent a patient” or “the patient was vented.”

## W

**WHO**, World Health Organization

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