

# Age-related differences in nasopharyngeal severe acute respiratory syndrome Coronavirus 2 (Sars-Cov-2) levels in patients with mild to moderate coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) <sup>[1]</sup>

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## AVAILABILITY

Access full study online <sup>[2]</sup>

## Excerpts from Abstract:

Children are susceptible to infection with severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) but generally present with mild symptoms compared with adults. Children drive spread of respiratory and gastrointestinal illnesses in the population, but data on children as sources of SARS-CoV-2 spread are sparse. Early reports did not find strong evidence of children as major contributors to SARS-CoV-2 spread, but school closures early in pandemic responses thwarted larger-scale investigations of schools as a source of community transmission. As public health systems look to reopen schools and day cares, understanding transmission potential in children will be important to guide public health measures. Here, we report that replication of SARS-CoV-2 in older children leads to similar levels of viral nucleic acid as adults, but significantly greater amounts of viral nucleic acid are detected in children younger than 5 years.

**Related link:** Study finds higher viral load in young children, raising questions about how likely they are to transmit the coronavirus <sup>[3]</sup>

**Region:** United States <sup>[4]</sup>

**Tags:** health and safety <sup>[5]</sup>

**Source URL (modified on 17 Sep 2020):** <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/research-policy-practice/20/08/age-related-differences-nasopharyngeal-severe-acute>

## Links

[1] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/research-policy-practice/20/08/age-related-differences-nasopharyngeal-severe-acute> <sup>[2]</sup>

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamapediatrics/fullarticle/2768952> [3] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/20/08/study-finds-higher-viral-load-young-children-raising-questions-about> [4] <https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/7865> [5] <https://childcarecanada.org/category/tags/health-and-safety>