COVID variant Omicron: What are the main symptoms?

The five most common symptoms associated with the Omicron variant include:

- runny nose
- fatigue which can be mild or severe
- headache
- sore throat as well as sneezing

However there are other symptoms that are also _____ with other variants.

These include coughing, shortness of breath, _____, muscle aches as well as loss of _____, although this is less common with the omicron variant.

Omicron is different than other variants _____ the mutations 32 mutations around the spike protein itself, which _____ that it has _____ shape and is better able to enter the cells of the body and replicate faster. Replicating 70 times _____ than previous variants and has a higher ability to reinfect.

So you're **more likely three to four times more** likely to be reinfected if you've had previous covet with the omicron variant. Overall we also see that _____ early data the reproduction number is between three to five.

The existing vaccines still do help protect against severe symptoms of Omicron, but we are seeing much higher rates of breakthrough infection with just two doses which is why it's very _____ to get a booster jab as well. With a booster we see that protection against severe symptoms goes up to 80 percent _____ to the having effect that we've seen with pfizer just with two doses alone.

Risk of hospitalization has decreased with Omicron. However, due to its increased ability to transmit its very high transmissibility. This means that we have many more people who are affected with Omicron _____ and the growth rate is much higher than for any other variant that we have seen before. So, because it's spreading much more quickly across the population many more vulnerable people will all be ____ at the same time.

So the public ____ threat remains because it will apply a significant amount of pressure on a health care system. So even if Delta had higher rates of hospitalization it _____ fewer people at the same time .We will see that younger people may have milder symptoms, but those with underlying conditions and the elderly will still be at a greater risk of hospitalization with Omicron and can _____ complications. This overall if we look at the advantage that is given by being milder is essentially cancelled out by the sheer rate of growth.

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