SARS

Weapon
No

Alternate Names
Severe acute respiratory syndrome

Etiology
SARS-associated coronavirus (SARS-CoV)

Transmission

Source:	Humans
	Contact
	Fecal-oral (possible)
Entry:	Inhalation
Human-to-Human:	Yes

Predisposing/Comorbid Conditions
Recent close contact with SARS patient or patient with severe respiratory illness who may have had contact with disease

Recent travel to domestic or foreign location with identified cases of SARS

Demographics

Location:	Global
Populations:	All, esp healthcare workers
Calendar:	Year-round

Systems
Respiratory – lower

Incubation
2-7 days

Signs/Symptoms [I]
Appetite – decreased (anorexia)

Bowel movements – diarrhea

Breathing – diff, rest (rest dyspnea)
Breathing – rapid (tachypnea)
Cough – nonproductive
Dizziness (lightheaded)
Head – pain (headache)
Mentation – confusion
Mentation – weak (malaise)
Muscles – pain (myalgia)
Muscles – stiffness
Nose, drainage – increased (rhinorrhea, coryza) [2]
Temperature, body – elevated (fever)
Throat – sore [2]

Differentiation

Includes, but not limited to:

Acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS)
Pneumonia

Complications

Include, but not limited to:

Acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS)

Laboratory [4] ▲

Blood C-reactive protein (CRP) – increased
Blood creatine kinase (CK) – increased
Blood liver enzymes – increased
Blood lymphocytes – decreased (lymphopenia)
Blood platelets – decreased (thrombocytopenia)
Blood partial thromboplastin time (PTT) – increased
Blood serology – positive [3]

ECG

NA in absence of complications

Imaging

Lungs, parenchyma general – infiltrates

Other Tests

Arterial blood gases

Treatment – Nonpharmacologic

Respiratory support

Treatment – Pharmacologic

NS

Treatment – Surgical/Invasive

NA in absence of complications

Precautions

Air and contact barriers ▲
Standard

Primary Prevention

Vaccine: no
Avoid contact
Avoid travel to areas with active infection
Isolation of cases ▲

Course

Variable
Fatal in 5% of cases

Notes

[1] Chest signs may be strikingly normal in contrast to radiographic changes
[2] Usually absent
[3] CDC states that SARS-CoV antibody detection is best indicator of infection
[4] BSL-3 procedures ▲

http://www.argus1.com/?sars

Updates