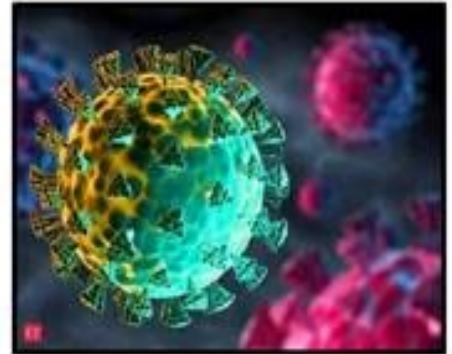


- Highly infectious and moves quickly
  - Doubling every 1.5-3.0 days
- Evidence of less severe disease, especially milder disease in persons immunized by vaccination or prior infection.
- Studies in mice and hamsters suggest Omicron infection milder because it is focused in nose, throat and wind pipe rather than lungs.



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## Risk to critical infrastructure

- Rapid increase in sick employees jeopardizes ability to maintain critical services



## Importance of Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP)

- Businesses should plan for possible disruptions.
  - Many workplaces created pandemic influenza plans or have continuity of operations plans (COOP). Be prepared to use.
- Absenteeism could be high.
- Businesses should plan for how they will continue to provide critical services in the event of a high level (25%) of absenteeism due to Omicron.



**If we see 25% infection rate, how well are we prepared to continue providing public safety services ?**

**LET'S BE CAREFUL OUT THERE**

**John M Harrington  
Commissioner of Public Safety**

