



The Common Cold Quiz

1. Name the communicable agent that causes the common cold: Rhinovirus.
There are over 100 different serotypes of the virus.
2. How long will this agent live on a desk?
ANSWER: 3 hours! Remember this when you see a tissue laying around!
3. Where is the best place to catch a cold?
 - a. at work
 - b. at homeANSWER: b. At home
 - * Next in line is school
 - * Colds are not usually caught at work even in buildings with poor ventilation.
4. What is higher risk for transmitting the agent?
 - a. picking your nose and touching your co-workers computer, telephone, etc.
 - b. coughing into their faceANSWER: a. a. The nose wins!
 - * Rhinovirus attacks the adenoids just behind your nose.
 - * The concentration of virus is higher in nasal secretions than in throat secretions.
5. Name a product that can be put on your hands that will kill this agent for an extended period of time: Iodine!!¹

¹ CDC.gov