

What is Walking Pneumonia?

November 14, 2024 • vajiramandravi.com



About Walking Pneumonia:

- It is a type of **atypical pneumonia** most **commonly caused by the bacteria *Mycoplasma pneumoniae***, but **other bacteria or viruses can also cause it**.
- It often presents **symptoms similar to** those of a **common cold or mild respiratory infection**, including **cough, sore throat**, low-grade **fever**, and **fatigue**.
- While it **may not cause severe illness**, it can **still be disruptive**, with symptoms lingering for weeks if left untreated.
- **Unlike typical pneumonia**, which can lead to severe lung inflammation and difficulty breathing, walking pneumonia is **often less intense, allowing people to carry on with their daily activities**, which is **how it earned its name** in the 1930s.
- It is **also called 'silent' pneumonia** because sometimes people don't experience symptoms despite X-rays showing fluid-filled air sacs in the lungs.

- **Transmission:** It is **contagious**. It's **spread through airborne droplets** from close contact, such as coughing, sneezing, or speaking.
 - **Treatment:** It is often manageable with **rest, fluids, and, in some cases, antibiotics**.
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Q1: What are X-rays?

X-rays are a form of high-energy electromagnetic radiation with wavelengths that are shorter than visible light yet longer than gamma rays. Discovered in 1895 by German physicist Wilhelm Röntgen, X-rays can penetrate different materials to varying degrees depending on their density. This unique ability makes them highly valuable for imaging internal structures, especially in medical and dental diagnostics.

News: What is walking pneumonia, the lung disease often mistaken for a common cold?

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/walking-pneumonia/>

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