



## Happy Hypoxia

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[sanskritiias.com/pt-cards/happy-hypoxia-32](https://sanskritiias.com/pt-cards/happy-hypoxia-32)

- Happy Hypoxia refers to the condition **where the patient has low oxygen saturation, but does not feel any symptoms of low saturation.** As a result, they do not get alarmed until the disease has progressed and there is severe damage to the lungs.
- **Younger patients often experience 'happy hypoxia'** in which they do not feel any breathlessness or related symptoms till oxygen saturation levels fall below 81, **because their immunity is high.**
- Due to increasing number of youngsters infected with Coronavirus during the current wave, doctors sounded an alert about 'happy hypoxia' among youngsters. **There are newer symptoms like rash, diarrhoea, conjunctivitis, joint pains,** but these are not mentioned in state or central protocol for RT-PCR testing.
- Apart from high immunity, young adults are also exposed to the virus more, as they are economically active. **Unlike youngsters, symptoms of hypoxia in older people appear at 92 saturation level.**

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