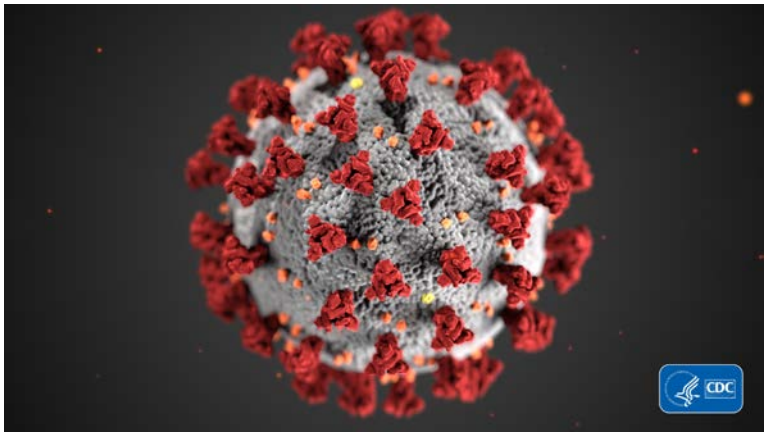
# What is coronavirus?

*Read the full article at **rsc.li/39Qtnxi***




Coronavirus is a type of virus called an envelope virus. It consists of RNA enclosed in a phospholipid protein envelope. The virus self-assembles from RNA, proteins and lipids. The lipids form a protective coat around the virus. The components of the virus are held together by non-covalent interactions between the RNA, proteins and lipids.

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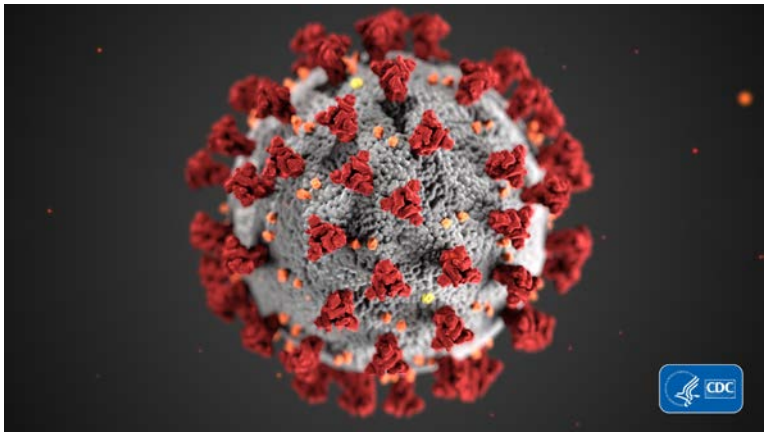


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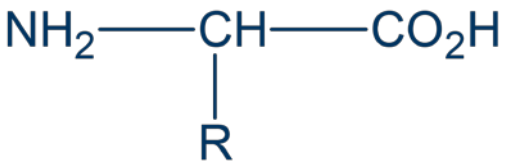
1. Give four types of non-covalent interactions that could be formed within the virus.
2. The general structure of an amino acid is shown: Explain how the R group in different amino acids leads to the formation of different types of non-covalent interactions.




*Amino acid general structure*