COVID-19 OCULAR ASSOCIATIONS IN THE SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE:
SYNOPSIS 1

The COVID-19 pandemic began in December and has affected people in nearly every country in the world. We provide a summary of ocular-related associations with COVID-19 in the literature, and we plan to update this as we become aware of new manuscripts. Thus far, it appears that approximately 1-5% of COVID-19 patients experience conjunctivitis and very few COVID-19 patients exhibit virus in their tears.


- Case series
- Confirmed novel coronavirus pneumonia patients
- Real-time RT-PCR assay of respiratory or blood specimens (+) result for novel coronavirus
- CT findings consistent with viral pneumonia
- Used sampling swab in lower fornix, 2 to 3 days apart
- 21 common coronavirus patients and 9 severe coronavirus patients
- Age 54 ± 14, 21 male, 7.3 days since symptom onset, temperature = 98.8°
- Only 1 of 30 patients had (+) coronavirus conjunctival sample
- (+) during both samples
- Only patient with conjunctivitis
- All samples from all other patients (−) at both visits
- Conclusion: “[COVID-19 virus] may be detected in the tears and conjunctival secretions in novel coronavirus pneumonia patients with conjunctivitis.”