

COVID-19 OCULAR ASSOCIATIONS IN THE SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE:

SYNOPSIS 3

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.

Lu C-W, Liu X-F, Jia Z-F. 2019-nCoV transmission through the ocular surface must not be ignored. Lancet 2020;395:e39

- Anecdotal case report (letter to editor)
- Patient with confirmed coronavirus
- Had inspected facilities in Wuhan
- Wore N95 mask, but no eye protection
- Several days before pneumonia symptoms, experienced red eyes
- Authors conclude COVID-19 could be transmitted through the eyes
- Conclusion: “Huang and colleagues should have analysed conjunctival scrapings from both confirmed and suspected [COVID-19] cases during the onset of symptoms. The respiratory tract is probably not the only transmission route for [COVID-19], and all ophthalmologists examining suspected cases should wear protective eyewear.”



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