

COVID-19 OCULAR ASSOCIATIONS IN THE SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE: SYNOPSIS 13

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.

Ma X, Lin J, Fang S. Precautions in ophthalmic practice in a hospital with the risk of COVID-19: experience from China. Acta Ophthalmologica. 2020

- Letter to Editor
- Recommendations:
 - Maintain social distance of at least 3 feet
 - Disinfect diagnostic equipment
 - Install shield plate on slit lamp
 - Appliances directly contacting patients' ocular surface (Goldmann tonometer, gonioscope, specular microscope, ultrasound probe, etc.) should be soaked by 2% alkaline glutaraldehyde, washed by flowing water then cleaned by 75% ethanol or 3% hydrogen peroxide
 - Since microaerosol might be formed due to tear film dehiscence, the non-contact tonometer should be placed in ventilated place, and the probe should be well disinfected after every use
- Triage patients by taking temperature and obtaining contact history
- Patients should wear masks
- Practice good hand hygiene with washing and gloves
- Conclusions: "The SARS-CoV-2 is one of the viruses against which we need protection in ophthalmic setting. The measures we mentioned here may help protect from COVID-19 and reduce the risk of its further spreading within hospital."



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