

COVID-19 OCULAR ASSOCIATIONS IN THE SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE: SYNOPSIS 14

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.

Borrelli E, Sacconi R, et al. Taking the right measures to control COVID-19 in ophthalmology: the experience of a tertiary eye care referral center in Italy. The Royal College of Ophthalmologists 2020

- Shared experience article
- This practice first screened patients by phone for:
 - Fever or upper respiratory symptoms
 - From a “hot spot”
 - Contact with COVID-19 patient
- All phone (-) patients asked about reduced VA or other symptoms:
 - If stable, contact in 14 days
 - Otherwise attend visit with no more than one other person
- Staff required to take temperature and report upper respiratory symptoms
- Doctors provided eye protection, gloves, and surgical masks
- Slit lamps equipped with face shields
- Disinfected equipment before and after using
- Accompanying person not allowed in waiting area
- No students or fellows in the clinic
- Conclusions: “Specific protocols are necessary to reduce healthcare professionals’ and patients’ contamination and, at the same time, guarantee the continuity of care for ophthalmology patients.”



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