COVID-19 OCULAR ASSOCIATIONS IN THE SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE:

SYNOPSIS 24

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
- Inclusion:
  - 21 years or younger
  - Hospitalized between April 18, and May 5, 2020
  - Presented with prolonged fever, systemic inflammation, shock, end-organ dysfunction, or symptoms reminiscent of Kawasaki Disease or toxic shock syndrome
  - Evidence of recent severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) infection
  - Reverse transcriptase–polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) of nasopharyngeal swabs or
  - Positive serology
- 17 patients:
  - 8 male
  - Median age = 8 years (range = 1.8-16 years)
  - 12 white
  - Good health (3 mild asthma)
- Presenting symptoms
  - Gastrointestinal (abdominal pain, vomiting, and/or diarrhea) 15 (88)
  - Shock at presentation 13 (76)
  - Rash 12 (71)
  - Conjunctivitis 11 (65)
  - Lip redness/swelling 9 (53)
  - Neurologic (headache, stiff neck, vision change) 8 (47)
  - Respiratory (cough, dyspnea) 7 (41)
  - Myalgia 6 (35)
  - Cervical lymphadenopathy 6 (35)
  - Skin desquamation 3 (18)
  - Hypoxia at presentation 3 (18)
  - History of COVID-19 sick contact 11 (65)
- Conclusions: “This study describes 17 previously healthy children and adolescents who developed an inflammatory phenotype related to COVID-19. Features overlapped with, but were distinct from, those of Kawasaki Disease or toxic shock syndrome.”