

COVID-19 OCULAR ASSOCIATIONS IN THE SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE:

SYNOPSIS 28

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.

Aytoğan H, Ayintap E, Yilmaz NO. Detection of Coronavirus Disease 2019 Viral Material on Environmental Surfaces of an Ophthalmology Examination Room. JAMA Ophthalmology. 2020

- Nine days after first confirmed COVID-19 case in Turkey on March 11, 2020
- Only patients who passed initial triage were examined
 - People with foreign travel history to China, Italy, or Iran; contact with confirmed or suspected case; and patients with fever, cough, or general illness were not allowed in for examinations
- A shield was fitted on the slit lamp
- Room cleaned at end of day with 3% hydrogen peroxide and remained empty for about 18 hours
- No room cleaning was performed between patients, but chin and forehead rests were wiped with 70% isopropyl alcohol between patients
- Samples taken twice daily, before and after examinations
- RT-PCR performed on samples from dacron swabs
- Seven patients triaged for COVID-19 testing before examination
- 22 patients examined; nine companions and one health care professional were also in examination room
- Mean time of examinations was nine minutes (range: 5-13)
- All seven samples taken before examinations were negative
- Of the seven samples taken after all examinations, only those on the slit lamp and phoroptors were positive
- Those from tonometer (2m from patients), desk (3-4 m from patients) and door handles (5 m from patients) were negative
- Conclusion: “This study provided objective data about the potential for patients who are asymptomatic, those accompanying them, or health care personnel in an eye examination room to leave viral material on the surfaces tested. Further studies are needed to determine the clinical relevance of these findings.”



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