

COVID-19 OCULAR ASSOCIATIONS IN THE SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE: SYNOPSIS 30

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.

Felfeli T and Mandelcorn ED. Assessment of Simulated Respiratory Droplet Spread During an Ophthalmologic Slit Lamp Examination. *JAMA Ophthalmol.* 2020

- Research letter
- Doctor with face mask and eye protection looking through slit lamp oculars
- Slit lamp with commercially available breath shield (9.75 inches wide and 10.5 inches tall)
- Manikin in slit lamp as patient with slit lamp focused on manikin's right eye
- 1.25 mL of fluorescent dye in balloon located in manikin oral cavity and inflated until it burst at 5 PSI (similar to voluntary cough)
- 395 nm flashlight used to detect emission of fluorescent particles
- Repeated 10 times
- Some droplets were noted up to 5 m from the manikin
- Droplets also detected on chest, shoulders, arms, hair, hands, and shoes of the examiner
- Droplets also detected on slit lamp and barrier
- Conclusions: "These findings support the use of adjuncts to the current standard PPE and protective barriers, such as breath shields, to try to minimize cross contamination during slit lamp examinations. These may include disposable gowns that provide coverage of the shoulders and arms, gloves, and surgical caps for the examiner. Most importantly, the use of masks for the patient at the slit lamp should be further explored in future studies, because it may offer an easy and inexpensive means of providing protection for the examiner."



AMERICAN ACADEMY
of OPTOMETRY