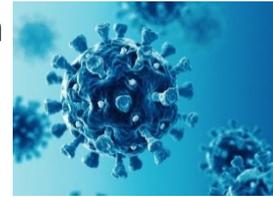


SARS-CoV-2 in people with primary ciliary dyskinesia

Written by **Eva SL Pedersen**



Why did we do this research and why is it important?

People with chronic diseases are at higher risk of severe COVID-19, the disease caused by a virus called “severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2” (SARS-CoV-2). Primary ciliary dyskinesia (PCD) is a rare chronic disease, and it is important to find out if people with PCD are also at higher risk of severe COVID-19. Here we studied how many people with PCD got infected with SARS-CoV-2 and how ill they got.

How did we do this research?

We analysed data from the COVID-PCD study. COVID-PCD is a research study that includes people with PCD from anywhere in the world. The study was set up in spring 2020 in collaboration between people with PCD and researchers from the University of Bern in Switzerland. Study participants completed a baseline questionnaire and then weekly questionnaires online where they reported SARS-CoV-2 infections and symptoms.

What did we find out and what does it mean?

By March 2021, 640 people with PCD participated in COVID-PCD. Of these, only 24 (4%) reported an infection with SARS-CoV-2. Among those infected, most people reported no or mild symptoms such as fever or headache only. 4 people reported to have been treated in hospital

for COVID-19. The longest hospital stay was 9 days, no participant was treated in the intensive care unit, and nobody died because of COVID-19.

The results are comforting as they show that only few people with PCD got infected, and in those, COVID-19 disease was mostly mild. The few reported infections might be because people with PCD protected themselves carefully.

Further information www.covid19pcd.ispm.ch

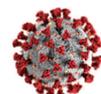
Full article reference: Pedersen ESL, Goutaki M, Harris AL, Dixon L, Manion M, Rindlisbacher B, Patient Advisory Group CP, Lucas JS, Kuehni CE. SARS-CoV-2 infections in people with primary ciliary dyskinesia: neither frequent, nor particularly severe. *Eur Respir J.* 2021 Aug 5;58(2):2004548. doi: 10.1183/13993003.04548-2020. PMID: 33833032; PMCID: PMC8034057.

You can find the full article in English [here](#).

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COVID-PCD