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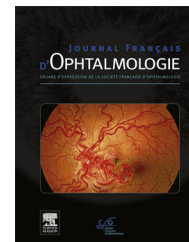


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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Covid-19, ocular manifestation and ophthalmic risks



Covid-19, manifestation oculaire et risques ophtalmiques

To the Editor,

The new coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is a new disease that becomes a new pandemic worldwide. This disease already affects more than 130 countries around the world. As noted in the Editorial, risk of transmission by tear is mentioned [1]. We would like to share ideas on this specific issue. First, the ocular manifestation is not a common finding in COVID-19. In our country, Thailand, the second country in the timeline of disease spread [2], there is no patients from overall 82 COVID cases that has ocular manifestation. The examination and diagnosis of early infection is usually by PCR test. It is hard to collect tear an further analysis might be very difficult. In fact, the virus is a large virus and it is usually hard to secrete via exocrine gland. The spread of disease is usually by respiratory secretion. Another interesting topic that should be address is the risk of ophthalmologist. Since ocular manifestation is uncommon, there is a low chance that an ophthalmologist gets contact with the patient who is in the active disease spreading period. Regarding, eye secretion, following the standard general precautions is necessary. Based on the information on COVID-19 infection among medical personnel in our country [3], there is still no infection among medical worker in ophthalmology unit.

Disclosure of interest

The authors declare that they have no competing interest.

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