## Survey on neurological symptoms in COVID-19 patients

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Dear colleague,

as Covid-19 spreads to pandemic and the number of infected people grows worldwide, questions rise about the potential noxious effect of coronavirus 2 (SARS-Cov-2) on nervous system. In an early retrospective study Mao et al\* reported neurological symptoms in 36% of COVID-19 patients. It is known that distributions of host receptors are generally consistent with the tropisms of viruses. Previous studies showed that SARS-CoV breaks into human cells interacting with angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 (ACE2) receptor which is expressed in human airway epithelia, lung parenchyma, vascular endothelia, kidney cells, small intestine cells and brain. Experimental studies on transgenic mice expressing human ACE2 demonstrated that SARS-CoV and MERS could spread into CNS via olfactory pathways, causing death without major lung involvement. In such cases, cardiorespiratory center of brainstem was heavily affected. Some authors suggested that also SARS-Cov-2 has neuroinvasive potential and could be implied in the severe respiratory failure observed in COVID19 patients. In order to quickly assess the involvement of the nervous system we developed an on-line Survey. If you are directly involved in COVID-19 patients care we'll be grateful if you will share your experience with us by filling out the form below. For any question don't hesitate to contact us at the following addresses:

Prof. Alberto Priori alberto.priori@unimi.it Dr. Laura Campiglio laura.campiglio@asst-santipaolocarlo.it

\* Mao L, Wang, M, Chen S, Quanwei H et al. Neurological Manifestations of Hospitalized Patients with COVID-19 in Wuhan, China: A Retrospective Case Series Study (February 24, 2020). Available at SSRN: <u>https://ssrn.com/abstract=3544840</u>

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Mark only one oval.

ALLERGY & IMMUNOLOGY
EMERGENCY MEDICINE
FAMILY MEDICINE
INFECTIOUS DISEASE
INTERNAL MEDICINE
PULMONARY MEDICINE
SURGERY
OTHER

- 2. Please select your region \*
- 3. Approximately how many COVID-19 patients did you evaluated in your clinical practice? \*

Mark only one oval.



## 4. Please evaluate the frequency of these symptoms in COVID-19 patients \*

Check all that apply.

	Absent	Low	Moderate	High
Fever				
Dry cough				
Dyspnea				
Fatigue				
Anorexia				
Diarrhea				

## 5. Please evaluate the frequency of these laboratory findings in COVID-19 patients \*

Check all that apply.

	Absent	Low	Moderate	High
Lymphopenia				
Elevated C-reactive protein				
Elevated lactate dehydrogenase				
Elevated D-dimer				
Elevated liver enzymes				
Elevated creatine phosphokinase				
Elevated serum creatinine				

6. Please estimate the relative frequency of neurological symptoms in COVID-19 patients \*

Mark only one oval.



## 7. Please evaluate the frequency of these symptoms in COVID-19 patients \*

Check all that apply.

	Absent	Low	Moderate	High
Headache				
Impaired consciousness				
Psychomotor agitation				
Acute cerebrovascular disease				
Ataxia				
Epilepsy				
Meningeal signs				
Visual abnormalities				
Taste and smell abnormalities				
Dysphagia				
Peripheral nerve damage				
Myalgias				

8. Do you think that the neurological symptoms that you observed were: \*

Mark only one oval.

Incidental but not related to COVID-19

Possibly related to systemic effect of COVID-19 (ex. hypoxia)

Directly related to COVID-19 (CNS invasion or neurotropic effect of SARS-CoV-2)

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