

# The Influence of the Background of Concomitant Pathology on the Post-Epidemic Syndrome

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In Ukraine, the COVID-19 infection (new type of pneumonia) was first diagnosed on March 3, 2020 in Chernivtsi. On March 13, the first fatal case due to coronavirus infection was recorded. This infectious disease has quickly spread worldwide, reached the scale of a pandemic, and is now characterized by a permanent wave flow with a periodic increase in the number of cases due to the ability of the virus to quickly mutate. The current half-year is characterized by the circulation of the COVID-19 strain in the world, and since August in Ukraine — FLiRT. Currently, Ukraine ranks 22<sup>nd</sup> in the world in terms of COVID-19 morbidity and mortality rates. Thus, the unprecedented problem of coronavirus infection in human history caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus has raised many fundamental questions regarding the pathogenesis of COVID-19, the interaction of the virus with the pulmonary microbiome and the human immune system. The heterogeneity and severity of COVID-19, the number and duration of complications, the impact on the course of other diseases, and the long-term consequences of COVID-19 remain relevant topics for research to this day.

**Objective** — to assess the variation of symptoms of post-COVID syndrome depending on comorbid pathology and its impact on the course of chronic respiratory diseases.

**Materials and methods.** Additionally, at the second stage of the study, a standardized Post-COVID-19 Functional Status (PCFS) scale was added to the questionnaire in order to more accurately assess the degree of decline in patients' ability to work. The study was conducted and data were analyzed at two time points due to the wave-like dynamics of the spread of COVID-19 cases. Accordingly, at each stage of the study, respondents were divided into two groups: the main group - respondents who were in hospital during acute COVID-19, and the comparison group — respondents who did not need inpatient treatment and answered online. Statistical processing of the results

obtained during the study was performed using the IBM SPSS Statistic program, version 12.

**Results.** Acute COVID-19 disease often does not mean complete recovery and entails many long-term consequences from various body systems. Given the multifactorial pathogenetic features of the infection caused by SARS-CoV-2 (inflammation, dysfunction of the nervous system, endothelial damage, thromboembolism), after the acute phase of COVID-19, it is necessary to further monitor the condition of patients in order to determine the prevalence and incidence rate, the consequences and subsequent prognosis of post-COVID syndrome and the impact on respiratory pathology in general. Given the limited number of studies on this issue in our country and the world as a whole, assessing the importance of more careful monitoring of manifestations of long-term symptomatic COVID-19, its relationship with comorbid conditions and the impact on the working capacity of people who have had COVID-19, we have formulated.

**Conclusions.** It was noted that the severity of post-covid symptoms was significantly higher in patients with a severe form of the disease and who were treated under the intensive care program (in hospital). Polysyndromic symptoms were also found in young people who had survived the disease without any particular problems or complications. The questions of the long-term impact of the infection on the human body, whether it provokes the emergence of other new diseases, how it affects physical endurance, and how the functioning of our organs and systems changes remain open – we will receive answers to these questions only in the future.