

Half of adults hospitalized with COVID-19 are still impacted one year later

Aleda M. Leis¹, Brianna Hatch-Vallier², Sydney Fine¹, E.J. McSpadden¹, Lois Lamerato³, Emily Nichols¹, Carrie A. Karvonen-Gutierrez¹, Emily T. Martin¹, and Anurag Malani N²

¹University of Michigan Department of Epidemiology

²Trinity Health Michigan

³Henry Ford Health System

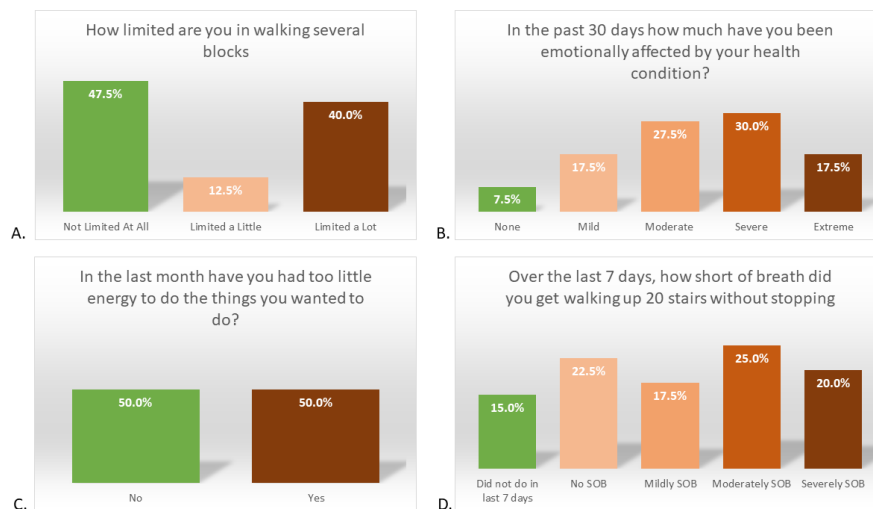
March 16, 2023

Abstract

Over 645 million people worldwide have been infected with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. Critical knowledge gaps regarding the characteristics, duration, and impact of symptoms due to “long COVID”. This study evaluated the persistence of symptoms at one year following hospitalization with COVID-19, comparing responses on standardized measurement tools to population norms. Adults hospitalized with COVID-19 March-October 2020 during the initial emergence period in Southeast Michigan were eligible. A detailed survey was conducted via telephone 9-15 months after hospital discharge. Questions assessed fatigue, dyspnea, and physical functioning related to their COVID-19 illness. The median World Health Organization Disability Assessment Schedule (WHODAS) polytomous score placed 50% (n=20/40) of participants in the 90th percentile of disability based on population norms. The mean SF-36 physical functioning score was almost nine points below population norms (mean=70.6, standard deviation=27.4). Additionally, 47.5% of individuals (n=19) were severely emotionally affected by their health condition. Over half of participants surveyed were still impacted a year after initial infection, experiencing limited functional ability, fatigue, and emotional difficulties. Given the impact of these symptoms on day-to-day quality of life, further studies are needed to develop strategies for treatment and management of post-COVID conditions.

Hosted file

LOCI 12 month draft v7.docx available at <https://authorea.com/users/564863/articles/630057-half-of-adults-hospitalized-with-covid-19-are-still-impacted-one-year-later>



Hosted file

Tables.docx available at <https://authorea.com/users/564863/articles/630057-half-of-adults-hospitalized-with-covid-19-are-still-impacted-one-year-later>