



## STUDY OF THE INCIDENCE OF PRESENTING SYMPTOMS IN COVID-19 SYMPTOMATIC PATIENTS

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** COVID-19 caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome – Corona virus-2 (SARS - CoV - 2). It was first reported in the capital city of Hubei Province, Wuhan city. Now it is declared as pandemic by WHO. COVID-19 presents as fever, cough, body pains, rhinitis and throat pain. Study of COVID-19 symptoms is essential to diagnose the disease.

**Aims And Objectives:** Study of the various presenting symptoms in COVID-19 symptomatic patients.

**Materials And Methods:** Inclusion criteria: Patients admitted with COVID-19 positive in SVRRGG Hospital, Tirupati. Exclusion criteria : Patients less than 10 years of age, asymptomatic patients.

**Results:** Commonest presenting symptoms in COVID-19 are fever, cough, body pains, rhinorrhoea.

**Conclusion:** In this study fever was the commonest presentation followed by cough. Any patient coming with cough or fever it is better to do COVID-19 test to prevent and treat complications.

**KEYWORDS :** COVID-19, Corona Virus, Symptoms, RTPCR test, SARS CoV-2.

## INTRODUCTION:

In December 2019, a case of pneumonia of unknown origin was reported in Hubei Province, China.<sup>1</sup> The causative pathogen, isolated from human airway epithelial cells, was found to be a novel enveloped betacoronavirus,<sup>2</sup> now known as Severe acute respiratory syndrome corona virus-2 (SARS-CoV2). The disease was named COVID-19. Though it shares phylogenetic similarity with SARS-CoV, it is the seventh member of the family of coronaviridae to infect humans.<sup>3</sup> Given the rapid spread of COVID-19 and the steep rise in morbidity and mortality it caused, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared it as a pandemic on 11th March, 2020.<sup>1,4,6</sup> This illness ranges in severity from asymptomatic or mild to severe disease.

In the first 6 months of the pandemic, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) has spread worldwide and has infected nearly 20 million people.<sup>7,8</sup> As of August 10, 2020, coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), the disease caused by SARS-CoV-2, resulted in more than 163 000 deaths in the United States and more than 730 000 worldwide.<sup>8</sup> Many infected people are asymptomatic or experience mild symptoms and recover without medical intervention.<sup>9,10</sup> However, older people and those with comorbid hypertension, diabetes, obesity, and heart disease are at higher risk of life-threatening illness.<sup>11,12</sup>

## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

To know the various symptoms of COVID-19 patients presenting to tertiary teaching hospital (SVRRGG hospital, Tirupati).

## MATERIALS AND METHODS:

## Inclusion Criteria:

- Symptomatic COVID-19 patients
- Patients age more than 10 years

This study included 100 patients admitted in SVRRGG Hospital, Tirupati who are positive for SARS CoV -2 in the nasopharyngeal swab and tested by RTPCR.

## Exclusion Criteria:

- Patients less than 10 years of age
- COVID-19 patients without symptoms
- Patients who are critically ill.

## RESULTS:

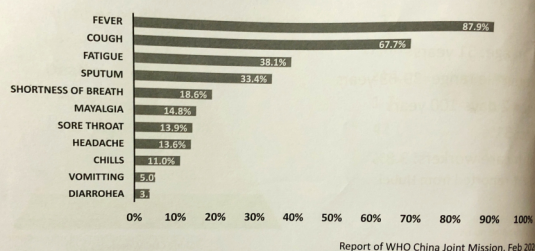
S.NO.	SYMPTOM	NO. OF PATIENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	Fever	88	88
2	Cough	65	65
3	Body pains	50	50
4	Rhinitis	28	28
5	Throat pain	25	25
6	Tiredness	25	25
7	Breathlessness	6	6

8	Chest pain	6	6
9	Diarrhoea	1	1

## DISCUSSION

In this study 100 patients were included with various symptoms. Many patients presented with fever, cough, body pains, rhinitis, throat pain, tiredness. The most commonest presenting symptom was fever, which was there in 88 patients (88%). The second commonest symptom was cough, which was there in 65 patients (65%). Body pains were there in 50 patients (50%) and rhinitis in 28 patients (28%). In 25 patients throat pain (25%) and tiredness (25%) were observed. Very less number of patients presented with breathlessness (6%), chest pain (6%). Only one patient presented with diarrhoea (1%).

## Signs and Symptoms of Cases in China



Sudhir Bhandari et.al., study concluded commonest presenting symptom was cough (85.71%) followed by fever (78.57%) which was in contrast to that reported in Huang et.al., and Wang et.al., where fever was the most common symptom found (91.7%) and Guan et.al.,<sup>13</sup> (87.9%). In our study fever was the most common presenting symptom (88%) followed by cough (65%).

## CONCLUSION:

In our study which included 100 COVID-19 positive symptomatic patients, majority of the patients presented with fever (88%) and cough (65%). This indicates it is better to test for SARS CoV-2 whoever presenting with fever and/or cough during this pandemic. This enables the health care professionals to isolate and treat COVID-19 patients. This also helps in preventing the spread of infection.

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