

Table 1: Demographics

| | n (%) or median [IQR] | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| | All patients n=259 | Non severe n=166 (%) | Severe group n=93 (%) | p-value |
| Median [IQR] age in years | 62[51,73] | 61[49,72] | 65[56,74] | 0.0254* |
| Gender | | | | 0.5251 |
| Male | 138 | 86(51.8) | 52(55.9) | |
| Female | 121 | 80(48.2) | 41(44.1) | |
| Race/Ethnicity | | | | 0.1142 |
| NH African Americans | 48 | 24 (14.5) | 24 (25.8) | |
| NH White Caucasians | 124 | 82 (49.4) | 42 (45.2) | |
| NH Others | 12 | 7 (4.2) | 5 (5.4) | |
| Hispanic / Latino ^a | 75 | 53 (31.9) | 22 (23.7) | |
| Health care worker | | | | 0.5057 |
| Yes | 15 | 11(6.6) | 4(4.3) | |
| No | 178 | 116(69.9) | 62(66.7) | |
| Unknown | 66 | 39(23.5) | 27(29.0) | |
| SNF | | | | 0.0094* |
| Yes | 60 | 30(18.1) | 30(32.3) | |
| No | 199 | 136(81.9) | 63(67.7) | |

SNF: Rehabilitation and skilled nursing facility; NH: Non-Hispanics; *p-values of <0.05
^a African Americans also identified themselves as Hispanic/ Latino. They were excluded from NH African American group and included into Hispanic/ Latino group only.

Results: Of 259 patients, 166 (64%) had non-severe disease, and 93 (36%) severe disease; median age [IQR] was 62 [51,73]. There were 138(53%) males and 75 (29%) Hispanics. Among non-Hispanics, 124(48%) were White, 48(19%) African Americans, and 12(5%) other races. Sixty (23%) were admitted from a nursing facility and the in-hospital mortality rate was 15% (38/259). Severe COVID-19 was associated with older age (p=0.02), admission from nursing facility (p=0.009), increased BMI (p=0.03), diabetes mellitus (p=0.0002), and COPD (p=0.03). At the time of presentation, severe COVID-19 was associated with tachypnea, hypoxia, hypotension (all p< 0.0001), elevated BUN (p=0.002) and AST (p=0.001), and acute or chronic kidney injury (p=0.01). Median hospital stay [IQR] was 11 days [7,18] in the severe vs. 6 days [3,11] in the non-severe group. In the severe group, 72% required ICU admission and 39% died.

Table 2: Medical comorbidities

| | n (%) or median [IQR] | | | |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| | All patients n=259 | Non severe n=166(%) | Severe group n=93(%) | p-value |
| Smoking (ever) | 93 | 59(35.5) | 34(36.6) | 0.8700 |
| Median BMI ^a [IQR] | 30[26,34] | 29[25,34] | 30[27,35] | 0.0347* |
| BMI>30 kg/m ² | 114 | 66(39.8) | 48(51.6) | 0.0652 |
| Hypertension | 164 | 100(60.2) | 64(68.8) | 0.1695 |
| Diabetes mellitus | 100 | 50(30.1) | 50(53.8) | 0.0002* |
| Pre-diabetes | 38 | 27(16.3) | 11(11.8) | 0.3330 |
| Hyperlipidemia | 134 | 84(50.6) | 50(53.8) | 0.6253 |
| Coronary artery disease | 38 | 27(16.3) | 11(11.8) | 0.3330 |
| Peripheral vascular disease | 10 | 5(3.0) | 5(5.4) | 0.3434 |
| COPD | 25 | 11(6.6) | 14(15.1) | 0.0276* |
| Asthma | 30 | 20(12.0) | 10(10.8) | 0.7546 |
| Chronic kidney disease | 46 | 27(16.3) | 19(20.4) | 0.4001 |
| Congestive heart failure | 37 | 20(12.1) | 17(18.3) | 0.1692 |
| Chronic liver disease | 16 | 11(6.6) | 5(5.4) | 0.6885 |
| Neurological diseases | 53 | 30(18.1) | 23(24.7) | 0.2026 |
| Autoimmune disease | 10 | 8(4.8) | 2(2.2) | 0.2849 |
| Organ transplant | 10 | 6(3.6) | 4(4.3) | 0.7832 |
| HIV | 5 | 1(0.61) | 4(4.4) | 0.0650 |
| Malignancy | 29 | 18(10.8) | 11(11.8) | 0.8095 |
| Immunosuppression secondary to medications | 25 | 13(7.8) | 12(12.9) | 0.1848 |

^aBMI was only reported in 248, out of which 156 were non-severe and 92 were severe.

Table 3: Presenting symptoms and signs in the first 48 hours of admission

| | n (%) or median [IQR] | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| | All patients n=259 | Non severe n=166(%) | Severe group n=93(%) | p-value |
| Subjective | | | | |
| GI symptoms | 127 | 86(51.8) | 41(44.1) | 0.2331 |
| Respiratory symptoms | 223 | 138(83.1) | 85(91.4) | 0.0651 |
| Systemic symptoms | 209 | 134(80.7) | 75(80.7) | 0.9879 |
| Objective | | | | |
| Fever | 153 | 94(56.6) | 59(63.4) | 0.2846 |
| Hypothermia | 30 | 15(9.0) | 15(16.1) | 0.0871 |
| Tachycardia | 138 | 83(50.0) | 55(59.1) | 0.1573 |
| Tachypnea | 191 | 107(64.5) | 84(90.3) | <.0001* |
| Hypoxia | 202 | 112(67.5) | 90(96.8) | <.0001* |
| Hypotension | 44 | 14(8.4) | 30(32.3) | <.0001* |

Fever was defined as the highest temp of >38C; hypothermia as the lowest temp of <36C; tachycardia was defined as having a heart rate of >100 beats per minute; tachypnea was defined as having a respiratory rate of >20 breaths per minute; hypoxia was defined as having an O2 saturation of <95% on room air; hypotension was having a systolic blood pressure of <90mm Hg. Symptoms of cough, shortness of breath, chest pain, sore throat, and congestion were grouped as respiratory; GI symptoms were nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain; systemic symptoms were fever, myalgias, rash, encephalopathy, dizziness.
 *p-values of <0.05

Table 4: Basic labs in the first 24 hours

| | n (%) or median [IQR] | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| | All patients n=259 | Non severe n=166(%) | Severe group n=93(%) | p-value |
| Leukocytosis | 37 | 19(11.6) | 18(19.6) | 0.1157 |
| Leucopenia | 25 | 14(8.5) | 11(12.0) | |
| Normal WBC | 194 | 131(79.9) | 63(68.5) | |
| Elevated BUN | 80 | 38(23.2) | 42(45.7) | 0.0002* |
| AKI/ CKD | 68 | 35(21.3) | 33(35.9) | 0.0116* |
| ALT> 42 IU/L [#] | 51 | 30(22.1) | 21(26.9) | 0.4215 |
| AST> 45 IU/L [#] | 62 | 29(21.3) | 33(42.3) | 0.0011* |

Leukocytosis is defined as WBC> 11x10exp9/L; leucopenia is defined as WBC< 3.5x10exp9/L; elevated BUN defined as >24 mg/dl; AKI/ CKD defined as serum creatinine >1.27 mg/dl
[#]ALT, AST in first 24 hours was only available for 214 patients. WBC count was missing in 3 patients.
 *p-values of <0.05

Conclusion: In this cohort of patients with COVID-19, specific comorbidities, and vital signs at presentation were associated with severe COVID-19. These findings help clinicians with early identification and triage of high risk patients.

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519. Immune responses and COVID-19 severity

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Session: P-19. COVID-19 Research

Background: The coronavirus-19-disease (COVID-19) pandemic caused by the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) has spread to >200 countries and surpassed 7 million cases. There is a broad range of COVID-19 illness, ranging from milder disease to a rapidly progressive respiratory disease and ARDS. The causes of this different clinical course and the drivers for severe disease are currently unknown. A fulminant increase of pro-inflammatory cytokines is thought to play a role in causing a rapid disease evolution, however the immune correlates of severe COVID-19 remain unclear.

Methods: To gain insight into relationship between immune responses and disease severity we built a longitudinal cohort of 40 adult patients with known COVID-19. Samples were collected at diagnosis and every 7 days until hospital discharge or death. As controls we also included a group of convalescent patients, and subjects who tested negative for COVID-19 by PCR. Clinical and laboratory data and were also collected. Multicolor flow cytometry was used to determine the presence and phenotype of B, T and natural killer (NK) cells. We also identified specific sub-populations (Tfh, activated/cytotoxic CD8 and NK) and assessed lymphoid exhaustion of different cell types such as naive, memory T cells, or NK over time. Anti-Sars-CoV2 IgG and IgM antibody were detected using lateral flow method.

Results: We found that the absolute number of lymphocytes and monocytes was decreased starting at diagnosis and correlated with disease severity. Disease severity correlated with decreased NK and T cell. In severe COVID-19 cases, NK cell populations were strongly decreased over time in intubated patients while they recovered in patients who improved and were discharged. CD8+ were also decreased at disease onset and seemed to correlate with disease severity. A high percentage of CD4+ and CD8+ T cells showed an exhausted phenotype. All patients tested at admission had IgM antibody responses irrespective of the course of the disease. Further analyses are ongoing.

Conclusion: The characterization and role of the immune responses in COVID-19 evolution is still under investigation. Further characterization of viral and immune factors will help in identifying subjects at high risk of severe disease and targets for intervention.

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520. Longitudinal Analysis of SARS-CoV-2 Viruses in Hospitalized Adults

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Session: P-19. COVID-19 Research

Background: The rapid spread of SARS-CoV-2, the causative agent of Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), has been accompanied by the emergence of viral mutations, some of which may have distinct virological and clinical consequences. While whole genome sequencing efforts have worked to map this viral diversity at the population level, little is known about how SARS-CoV-2 may diversify within a host over time. This is particularly important for understanding the emergence