

Title

**Interstitial lung disease after COVID-19 vaccination may be more common
in Asians**

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9 Dear Editor,

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12 We thank Drs. Pranav Ish and Shekhar Kunal for their critical
13 reading of our article^{1, 2}. As they indicated, it is important that myocarditis
14 be ruled out in this case. Although we did not mention this issue in our brief
15 report, we did indeed rule out the possibility of myocarditis in our diagnosis.
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17 Electrocardiography and echocardiography revealed no significant
18 abnormalities. In addition, serum creatine kinase levels during
19 hospitalization were below the upper limit of the normal range. Having
20 ruled out myocarditis, we diagnosed the patient as having interstitial lung
21 disease (ILD) caused by COVID-19 vaccination.
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39 Our paper was the second report of ILD after COVID-19 vaccination.
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41 Around the time of our case report, two additional cases were reported in
42 Asia^{3, 4}. To our knowledge, all 4 of these cases were Asians^{1, 3, 4, 5}. In
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44 addition, Park et al. also report that 8 out of 10 cases of influenza
45 vaccine-related ILD were Asians⁵. This suggests that interstitial lung
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47 disease after COVID-19 vaccination may be more common in Asians.
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57 We agree with Drs. Ish and Kunal that recognition of COVID-19
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6 vaccine-related adverse events including myocarditis is essential for
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9 appropriate therapy. In addition, we think that COVID-19 vaccine-related
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vaccine-related adverse events including myocarditis is essential for appropriate therapy. In addition, we think that COVID-19 vaccine-related ILD may also be ignored and underdiagnosed, especially in Asia, and therefore should also be considered in diagnosis.

In conclusion, careful attention should be paid to COVID-19 vaccine-related ILD, particularly in Asian countries. Further research is needed to examine the relation between COVID-19 vaccine-related ILD and race.

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