

Digestive symptoms are prominent among COVID-19 patients: study

18 March 2020



More information: *American Journal of Gastroenterology* (2020). DOI: [10.14309/ajg.0000000000000620](https://doi.org/10.14309/ajg.0000000000000620) , [journals.lww.com/ajg/Documents ... f?PRID=AJG_PR_031820](https://journals.lww.com/ajg/Documents...f?PRID=AJG_PR_031820)

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The American Journal of Gastroenterology published today a new study that reveals digestive symptoms, including diarrhea, are common in COVID-19 patients. The study comes from the Wuhan Medical Treatment Expert Group for COVID-19 in China.

Nearly half of COVID-19 patients enrolled in the study conducted in the Hubei province of China presented digestive symptoms, such as diarrhea and anorexia, and cited it as their chief complaint.

The study also reveals that patients with digestive symptoms had a longer gap between the onset of symptoms and hospital admission than patients presenting only respiratory symptoms and were less likely to be cured and discharged than those without digestive symptoms.

The authors recommend that "the index of suspicion may need to be raised earlier in at-risk [patients](#) presenting with digestive symptoms rather than waiting for [respiratory symptoms](#) to emerge."

APA citation: Digestive symptoms are prominent among COVID-19 patients: study (2020, March 18)
retrieved 23 April 2021 from
<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-03-digestive-symptoms-prominent-covid-patients.html>

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