

Mortality higher for diabetic ketoacidosis with COVID-19

16 March 2021

patients with COVID-19 (



(HealthDay)—Patients with diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA) with COVID-19 have a much higher rate of mortality than patients without COVID-19, according to a research letter published online March 10 in *JAMA Network Open*.

Francisco J. Pasquel, M.D., from the Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, and colleagues used individual-level inpatient data from 175 U.S. hospitals (17 states; Feb. 1 to Sept. 15, 2020) to examine severity markers of DKA, insulin requirements, complications, and in-hospital case fatality in 5,029 patients treated with the same computerized continuous insulin infusion (CII) algorithm with and without COVID-19.

The researchers found that 4 percent of patients (210 patients) were positive for COVID-19. Those with COVID-19 were older and had a higher body mass index compared with patients without COVID-19. Older patients with COVID-19 (>65 years) were more likely to have [cardiovascular disease](#) and diabetes complications than younger

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