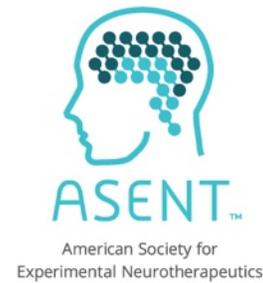


# Can Covid-19 Cause Lasting Damage to the Brain?

*Data on acute and chronic neurological implications of COVID-19 discussed at ASENT 2022 Annual Meeting.*



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**AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR EXPERIMENTAL NEUROTHERAPEUTICS**  
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**Haddonfield, NJ**—While people are experiencing a sense of pandemic fatigue, researchers in neurology and neuroscience are digging deep into the data collected to learn about the effect of COVID-19 on the nervous system. According to Walter J. Koroshetz, MD, Director of National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), “In some cases detrimental effects last far longer than the infection.” The research findings by three leading scientists in this area will be presented at the American Society for Experimental Neurotherapeutics (ASENT) 2022 Annual Meeting, which will be held virtually from February 28 to March 3, 2022.

This symposium titled, “Covid-19 and the Brain: Update 2022” will be held March 3, from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM ET. Following their scientific presentations, the faculty will answer questions from attendees during a live panel discussion. This plenary session covers how the virus creates CNS damage and compromises functions, as evidenced by sensory, cognitive, and behavioral impairments that last beyond the typical symptoms of COVID-19. The faculty includes:

- Avindra Nath, MD, Clinical Director, Division of Intramural Research, NINDS, will address the neurological involvement and potential therapeutic targets of COVID-19 toxicity in the CNS.

**PRESENTATION:** Pathophysiology and therapeutic targets for Neuro-COVID

- Ming Lim, MD, PhD, Consultant Children’s Neurologist, Evelina London Children’s Hospital, will describe long-term CNS consequences of COVID-19 infection in children.  
PRESENTATION: Clinical features and outcome following Neuro-COVID in children
- Clinton B. Wright, MD, MS, Director of the Division of Clinical Research (DCR), NINDS, will emphasize neurological characterization of the post-acute features of COVID-19 and the NIH initiative RECOVER designed to understand causes and preventive measures against long COVID.  
PRESENTATION: Characterizing Post-acute Sequelae of Covid-19 (PASC): Overview and the NIH RECOVER Initiative.

When asked about what type of neurological symptoms clinicians have been seeing, Dr. Nath replied, “with acute COVID-19, we are seeing patients experiencing loss of taste and smell, headaches, stroke, delirium, and brain inflammation.” He went on to say, “Though there does not seem to be extensive infection of brain cells by the virus, the neurological effects may be caused by immune activation, neuroinflammation, and damage to brain blood vessels.”

“We are grateful to have this extraordinary faculty contribute to what promises to be an outstanding session at the ASENT 2022 virtual annual meeting. The pandemic numbers continue to be staggering, and including a session on the neurologic implications of COVID-19 at the ASENT meeting is extremely timely,” noted Tom Sutula, MD, PhD, Professor Emeritus, University of Wisconsin, Madison, and President of the ASENT.

“ASENT is honored to feature these three international medical experts from whom we will learn about the short and long-term causes and neurological complications of COVID-19”, remarked C. Anthony Altar, PhD, President and COO, Splice Therapeutics, and Co-Chair of the ASENT Program Committee.

## **ASENT 2022 Annual Meeting**

Registration to attend the full ASENT 2022 Annual Meeting from February 28 to March 3 is free. The board and organizers hope to leverage this virtual format to encourage robust international discussion from all key stakeholders invested in the field of neurotherapeutics. It features scientific symposia, poster sessions, pipeline sessions, and online networking with an emphasis on neurological disease. To learn more about the ASENT 2022 Annual Meeting visit: <https://asent2022reg.eventbrite.com>

## **About ASENT**

The American Society for Experimental Neurotherapeutics (ASENT) is an independent non-profit organization established in 1997 by leaders in academia, government, advocacy, and industry to facilitate the process by which new therapies are made available to patients with neurological disorders. The organization's primary goal is to encourage and advance the development of improved therapies for diseases and disorders of the nervous system.

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