New Study Shows Patients Test Positive for COVID-19 in the Gut

Many COVID-19 patients are testing positive for COVID-19 through stool samples even after testing negative for viral respiratory infections. Scientists have found that patients have prolonged viral gut infections, even without gastrointestinal symptoms.

SARS-Cov-2 primarily spreads through respiratory droplets but finding viral infections in the stool of patients shows that Sars-CoV-2 does more than just infect the respiratory system. Evidence suggests that COVID-19 also affects the intestinal tract.

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> *"We used to think of SARS-CoV-2 as just a pulmonary or respiratory disease," said Siew Chien Ng, assistant dean of medicine and associate director of the university's Centre for Gut Microbiota Research, in an interview Tuesday. "But over the last couple months, a lot of evidence has emerged that SARS-CoV-2 also affects the intestinal tract."*
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> *Covid-19 May Cause Prolonged Gut Infection, Scientists Say*

Within a study that tested 73 patients, more than half tested positive for coronavirus through stool samples. Data collected showed that patients who tested positive for COVID-19 in the gut had an abundance of opportunistic microbes and a loss of beneficial protective microbes. This was amplified in cases where antibiotics were used for treatment.

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Scientists are just now beginning to understand the important

role gut health plays in overall health. We have known this for quite some time. If you’re at all worried about COVID-19 or any other disease, the best thing you can do is focus on gut health.