

## Review of: "Candida and Long Covid"

## **Brent Brown**

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

## a) Abstract:

- 1. You refer to long haulers. Do you mean long distance travellers or those with PASC or Long COVID. This is required to be defined.
- 2. You refer to IFN; please state it is type II as well. It is a cytokine used for NK and T cell measurement, and the readers need to be aware of this.
- 3. I think myriad is a poor choice of words. Maybe variety of AI diseases. Some are rare but generally are unknown.

## b) Introduction:

- You mention GPCR. Please define for the reader why G protein-coupled receptors are relevant in the production of auto-antibodies to them or others. I don't necessarily disagree; however, nicotinic receptors are implicated, as are DSG proteins.
- c) Hypothetical Model:
- 1. You mention TLR4; this is correct. What about TLR3 and TLR7, which modulate type I IFN responses? There are aspects that are super-antigen like of SARS-COV2, although not now.
- d) What is the occurrence of Zonulin as a biomarker of CeD?

Your citation says n=102, but antibiotics increased this prior to diagnosis. This is a variable factor. Please be clear about this.

IDO occurs as 2 types. I would like to see discussion of this expression in macrophages, as it is a key enzyme in the TAM/TME environment.

Again, the hypothesis I think is logical; however, please contextualise this further.

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