

# Review of: "Long COVID Syndrome: A Systematic Review of Persistent Symptoms Post-Pandemic"

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**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

1. **Excluding studies that focused on specific clinical conditions (comorbidities)** previous literature often emphasizes the importance of including diverse populations with varying comorbidities to understand the full scope of Long COVID. Consider including such studies or **clarifying the rationale for their exclusion**.
2. Only one article offered a comparative perspective between positive and negative groups. **Including more comparative studies** could strengthen the analysis of Long COVID symptoms.
3. The introduction references general statistics about symptom prevalence, such as fatigue in Germany and musculoskeletal pain prevalence. It would be beneficial to **directly tie these statistics to COVID-19 if specific studies are available**. Including studies that report on these symptoms specifically in Long COVID patients would provide a more direct connection. Similarly, a study from the Netherlands about mental disorder symptoms during the pandemic, whether it has a correlation with Long COVID.
4. The article excluded studies focusing on specific age ranges and healthcare professionals. However, previous literature suggests that Long COVID manifestations can vary significantly across different demographics. Can you provide specific examples of studies that include diverse populations with varying comorbidities to justify their inclusion?
5. The results present a broad list of symptoms from various studies. Ensuring that the symptoms are categorized consistently across studies (e.g., by severity or duration) would improve clarity. Could you suggest a method or criteria for categorizing symptoms consistently across studies to align with PRISMA guidelines?
6. **Ensure all references are up-to-date and include more significant studies from 2023 and early 2024** to reflect the latest research findings.
7. The **conclusion** should emphasize the need for longitudinal studies that track symptoms over extended periods and across different populations to capture the full trajectory of Long COVID.