

Peer Review

Review of: "Social Identity Processes Within Online Support Groups for People With Long Covid: A Longitudinal Survey"

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First, I take the opportunity to thank you for the possibility to review this timely contribution. I also thank the authors for addressing the important topic of Long Covid and (peer) support stemming from LC groups. As a patient researcher, I especially appreciated the paper's patient involvement, which contributed to some of the strongest points of the study and was clearly described in the manuscript.

The manuscript, overall, would benefit from some polishing/review to be more accessible to readers, with particular regard to the most technical parts; the LC patient community can be among the stakeholders interested in the paper, including patients/advocates who are not professional researchers.

It would also be important to address more clearly, and with more details, aspects of the analyses that could contribute to the study's limitations (e.g., some were said to be "underpowered," please clarify).

The small sample size is also a limitation that deserves further consideration. This is especially true when compared to the huge LC patient population, now estimated to be in the hundreds of millions in several research/policy outputs.

Overall, the limitations of the paper could be better elucidated. Aspects such as access to medical care or a formal diagnosis, for example, would deserve further attention as factors impacting a patient's wellbeing.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.