

Review of: "Stellate ganglion block for anosmia and taste disturbance due to Long-COVID"

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Potential competing interests: The author(s) declared that no potential competing interests exist.

We appreciate the article showing the relief of post covid anosmia by blocking the stellate ganglion. Although it is a report of a single case, the favorable result obtained is promising. Further prospective, doubled-blinded, randomized studies are indicated.

Regarding possible causes, Ho et al found microvasculopathy [1] that could produce local ischemia which could improve with the blockade of the stellate ganglion. Reduced blood circulation to the inner ear is a common cause of hearing impairment and tinnitus. Blockade of the sympathetic fibers to the cochlea can lead to increased cochlear blood flow, this has been recommended as therapy for tinnitus [2].

1. Ho C, Salimian M, Hegert J, et al. Postmortem Assessment of Olfactory Tissue Degeneration and Microvasculopathy in Patients With COVID-19. *JAMA Neurol.* 2022;79(6):544–553. doi:10.1001/jamaneurol.2022.0154
2. Koning HM, Dyrbye BA, van Hemert FJ. Percutaneous Radiofrequency Lesion of the Superior Cervical Sympathetic Ganglion in Patients with Tinnitus. *Pain Pract.* 2016 Nov;16(8):994-1000. doi: 10.1111/papr.12348.