

# Review of: "Retinal Vasculitis Following COVID-19 Infection: A Systematic Review"

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

Dear Authors & Publishers,

Thank you for the invitation.

This research article is generally well-written. However, I have some suggestions:

1. The abstract provides a good summary of the study's purpose, methods, results, and conclusions. However, the sample size (n=12) should be included in the methods section;
2. The introduction provides relevant background on COVID-19 and associated retinal manifestations. However, the section could benefit from more details on the distinct mechanisms and clinical features of retinal vasculitis compared to vascular occlusions that motivated this study;
3. The methods section clearly describes the literature search strategy, inclusion/exclusion criteria, and data extraction. The inclusion of a PRISMA flow diagram is excellent. However, more details on the specific data points extracted from each paper and how they were synthesized would strengthen this section;
4. The results provide a concise summary of the patient demographics, clinical findings, and outcomes. The table effectively condenses the case details. However, the section would benefit from explicitly reporting the number/proportion of eyes with each clinical finding since percentages are currently only provided for some features. Estimating the mean time to onset from a range should also be justified;
5. The discussion provides a strong overview of COVID-related vasculitis and compares retinal vasculitis to occlusions. Relating the findings to pathogenic mechanisms is insightful. However, the writing could be tightened in some areas, and limitations of the small sample size should be noted;

6. The conclusions succinctly summarize the study implications. However, some repetition from the results/discussion could be eliminated. Suggesting any clinical recommendations and future research directions would also strengthen this section.

Overall, the quality of the paper is reasonably good. The primary weaknesses are the small sample size and lack of details on the data synthesis methods. With minor revisions to strengthen the methodology and tighten the writing, I believe this paper could potentially merit publication. Expanding the literature review and clearly distinguishing the clinical features/treatment of vasculitis versus occlusions may also help acceptance.