

# Lymphocytopenia may predict greater severity in COVID-19

July 15 2020

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(HealthDay)—Lymphocytopenia may be predictive of disease severity in

patients with COVID-19, according to a study published online July 10 in the *International Journal of Laboratory Hematology*.

Jason Wagner, M.D., from the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, and colleagues performed a retrospective cohort review study on [patients](#) admitted for COVID-19 illness. Basic demographic, clinical, and laboratory data were analyzed to assess the association between lymphocytopenia at the time of admission and clinical outcomes.

The researchers found that patients admitted to the [intensive care unit](#) were more likely to have a lower lymphocyte count and lymphocytopenia than those who were not (odds ratio, 3.40). Patients with lymphocytopenia were more likely to develop an [acute kidney injury](#) during admission (odds ratio, 4.29).

"Because of the uncertainty surrounding the implications of this virus, we knew there needed to be a prognostic factor that could aid hospital workers in managing COVID-19," a coauthor said in a statement. "In this study, we discovered evidence of a relationship between lymphocytopenia and [disease severity](#) that could really help clinicians prepare for critically ill patients."

**More information:** [Abstract/Full Text](#)

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