

## Supplementary material

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*Martusewicz-Boros MM, Boros PW, Piotrowska-Kownacka D, Paciorek M. Myocarditis after COVID-19 pneumonia: incidence and risk factors. Pol Arch Intern Med. 2023; 133: 16510. doi:10.20452/pamw.16510*

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### **METHODS:**

Pulmonary function tests (PFT):

PFTs included spirometry, plethysmography and lung transfer factor for carbon monoxide (TLco) measurements using the single breath method tests were done. The latest ATS/ERS guidelines were followed for all lung function measurements.[1–3]

TLco results were referenced to predicted values corrected for the patient's hemoglobin level.

We used the most recent reference values from GLI project (calculation made in February 2023, after equation correction for TLCO) for all lung function measurements defining the lower limit of normal (LLN) at the level of z-score equal to -1.645.[4-7]

The 6MWT was conducted in accordance with ATS guidelines.[8]

Cardiac magnetic resonance (CMR):

CMR was performed using a clinical MR 1.5 T system (Ingenia 1.5T; Philips Healthcare, Best, the Netherlands) using a dStream thorso coil. The imaging protocol included myocardial function, tissue oedema and necrosis/fibrosis assessment. SSFP sequences with ECG gating were used for function assessment. Black blood T2-weighted STIR TSE (short-tau inversion-recovery turbo spin echo) images were performed for oedema assessment.

Focally increased signal intensity or globally increased over 2,0 cardiac muscle/skeletal

muscle ratio on T2-weighted STIR images measured on the same image was marked as oedema. Necrosis/fibrosis was detected on late gadolinium enhanced (LGE) T1-weighted IR gradient echo images, obtained 10-25 min. after administration of 0,1 mmol/kg b.w. Gd-based contrast agent, gadobutrol (Gadovist; Bayer Healthcare, Leverkusen, Germany). Inversion time was individually adjusted based on look-locker images to null the signal from a healthy cardiac muscle. Presence of any hyperintensity area on LGE images were classified according to its localization into ischemic pattern (subendocardial) and non-ischemic pattern (intramural, subepicardial). All imaging sequences were obtained in short axis orientation covering the whole ventricles and at least one in left ventricular long axis, four and five chamber views. For LGE whole heart 3D IR GRE with fat saturation and navigator gating was used. According to Lake Louise Criteria (2018) acute myocarditis was diagnosed if both non-ischemic pattern of LGE and oedema were present. Presence of non-ischemic LGE pattern in absence of oedema and hypertrophy were classified as healed myocarditis. Presence of ischemic LGE pattern in presence or absence of oedema were classified accordingly as acute or previous myocardial infarction. Pericardial hyperintensity on T2-weighted STIR images and enhancement on 3D IR GRE fat sat images, regardless of presence or absence pericardial effusion, were classified as acute pericarditis.

The study was conducted after the patient signed the consent and provided that there are no contraindications to CMR.

## RESULTS:

Table S1. Study group characteristics.

	n=	Numbers and frequency in % or median and interquartile range where appropriate
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Demographic/epidemiologic data:		
Males	75	46 (61.3%)
Age, years	75	59 (46 - 66)
BMI, kg/m <sup>2</sup>	75	28.43 (25.39 - 31.88)
ever smokers	75	28 (37.3%)
heart related comorbid disease	75	25 (33.3%)
Acute phase of the COVID-19:		
Lung involvement in HRCT, %	75	50 (30 - 60)
WBC, x10 <sup>9</sup> /L	65	5.8 (4.5 - 7.7)
CRP, mg/L	66	73.5 (43 - 161)
IL-6, pg/ml	64	34.55 (21.6 - 74.45)
NT-proBNP, pg/ml	55	127 (54.7 - 312)
required oxygen therapy	75	55 (73.3%)
required mechanical ventilation	75	1 (1.3%)
treated with antiviral agents	75	43 (57.3%)
treated with dexamethasone	75	42 (56%)
loss of smell/taste	75	35 (46.7%)
Symptoms after acute phase		
cough (persistent)	75	36 (48%)
dyspnoe (persistent)	75	4 (5.3%)
exercise intolerance	75	35 (46.7%)
any symptom	75	57 (76%)
Lung function shortly after the acute phase (7-30 days):		
FEV1/FVC, z-score	75	0.25 (-0.5 - 0.73)
airway obstruction (low FEV1/FVC<LLN)		4 (5.3%)
TLC, z-score	74	-0.41 (-1.07 - 0.34)
TLC, %pred.		95.09 (86.78 - 104.39)

Restriction (TLC below LLN)		11 (14.7%)
FVC, z-score		-0.33 (-1.13 - 0.4)
FVC, %pred	75	95.25 (83.75 - 106.32)
low FVC (below LLN)		12 (16%)
FEV1, z-score		-0.38 (-0.8 - 0.45)
FEV1, %pred.	75	95.19 (86.49 - 107.27)
TLco, z-score		-1.12 (-1.82 - -0.07)
TLco, %pred.	75	83.17 (73.13 - 98.92)
Low TLco (below LLN)		23 (30.7%)
6MWD, m	74	573 (480 - 648)

WBC – white blood count, CRP – C-reactive protein, IL-6 – interleukin 6, NT-proBNP – N-terminal pro b-type natriuretic peptide, HRCT – high resolution computed tomography, FEV1 – forced expiratory volume at 1 s., FVC – forced vital capacity, TLC – total lung capacity, TLco – lung transfer factor for carbon monoxide, 6MWD – 6 minute walking distance.

Figure S1.

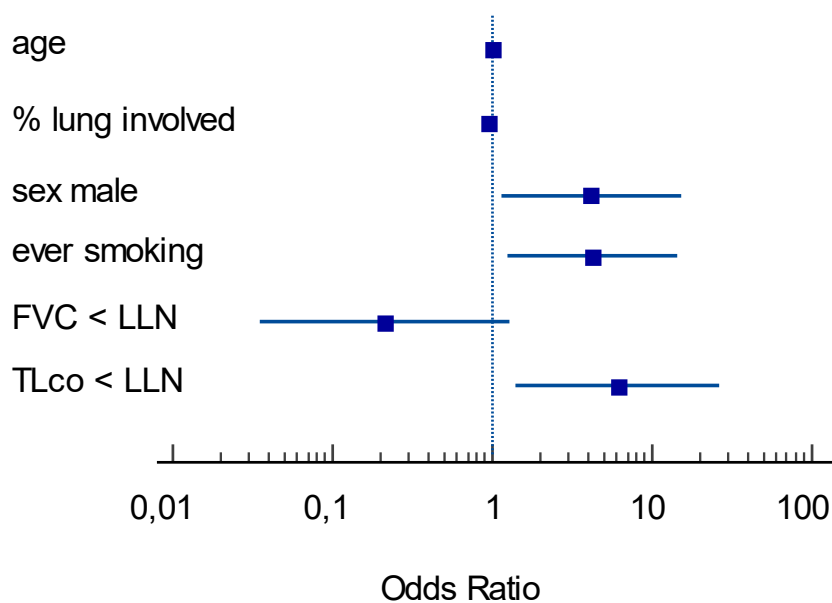


Figure S1, Forest plot of odds ratios for factors associated with myocarditis after COVID-19 pneumonia. Odds ratios were derived from logistic regression model. % lung involved – percentage of lung affected in high resolution computed tomography in acute phase; TLco – lung transfer factor for carbon monoxide; FVC – forced vital capacity.

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Reference List 2. (for Discussion section in main text)

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