

Townhall Questions & Answers:

Mental Health

Joining the study

1. Are there any more opportunities to join RECOVER studies?

ILLInet is not currently enrolling RECOVER participants. However, other Long-COVID studies led by our ILLInet researchers are underway, including treatment trials. EVERYONE, including individuals who are not eligible to enroll in the RECOVER study, is invited to submit your name and contact information at illinet.org; if you do, we will send you information about what we are learning, invite you to townhalls, and related studies - including upcoming clinical trials to test treatments that may work to lessen symptoms from Long COVID or to prevent Long COVID.

How the study works + tests

2. Who's eligible for Tier 2 & 3 tests?

Depending on your medical results, answers to your surveys, if you get infected/reinfected with COVID, or if you were randomly selected, you may be asked to complete additional in-person medical exams. Anyone can be eligible for different tests depending on survey answers, lab results, randomized selection and other factors.

3. If we triggered a fibroscan, but we're in Peoria (OSF), do we travel to Chicago for it?

No, you will have the fibroscan in Peoria when the test becomes available.

Symptoms + trajectory

How has Long COVID changed over time? What is being learned about different Long COVID symptoms?

4. Do you have any information on **parosmia caused by covid. I've been suffering from this condition for 2 years and it's changed my life.**

Parosmia is a condition where a person's sense of smell no longer works correctly. Parosmia can be caused by infections like COVID-19, head injuries, or other neurologic conditions. Parosmia happens in some, but not all people with COVID-19, and can last a few days to months or longer. We do not yet know why there is so much variability in parosmia after COVID-19. The RECOVER study is examining parosmia and other COVID-19 related symptoms and hopes to answer questions about why some people develop these symptoms and what can be done to prevent or treat it.

Other studies

5. [Are researchers] looking at the link of women with endometriosis, PCOS, and Long Covid? I'm seeing increased research talk online about this.

The RECOVER cohort study is collecting information about polycystic ovarian syndrome (PCOS), but not specifically endometriosis. For more information about the types of information collected in cohort study questionnaires, see: recovercovid.org/protocols

For more information about pathobiology studies being done by the RECOVER study, please see: recovercovid.org/pathobiology

6. Will the RECOVER studies only look at those who contracted COVID early in the pandemic or only those who contracted in later years too?

The RECOVER studies include people who developed COVID since the early period of the pandemic.

7. Will there be more trials for individuals who never contracted COVID it was someone who was interested in seeing if they had some kind of super duper immune system?

The RECOVER studies will be examining why some people developed COVID-19 and others did not, including if there are differences in the host response (immune response).

8. Will there be a genetic-based clinical trial in the future?

The RECOVER studies will examine if a person's genes affect their host response (immune response) and risk of developing Long COVID.

9. Will we have to intentionally look up and register for any relevant trials or will UIC reach out and ask if we are interested in a trial?

UIC will contact RECOVER participants about opportunities for clinical trials. You do not need to contact UIC, but we are always willing to hear from you if you have questions or specific interests. Send an email to info@illinet.org or call us at 855-461-8185.

Contacting the ILLnet RECOVER study

10. I'm in the RECOVER study, but didn't receive the townhall invite.

Sorry to hear that you didn't get the townhall invite but happy that you joined! We have found that emails sometimes go to Spam/Junk folders. If possible, mark our emails as safe or recognised. You may also add [email] as a contact. For attendees that shared their email in the chat, we are following up on a case by case basis.

If you have additional questions, please email us at info@ILLnet.org.