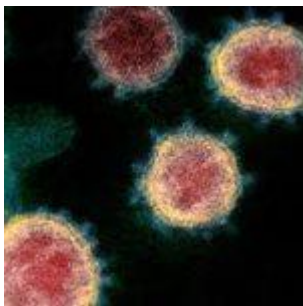


SARS-CoV-2 found in semen.



To date severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) has been detected in stool, gastrointestinal tract, saliva, and urine samples. A cohort study published in JAMA Network Open found that SARS-CoV-2 can be present in the semen of patients with COVID-19 and may still be detected in the semen of recovering patients. It is proposed that because the imperfect blood-testes/deferens/epididymis barrier, SARS-CoV-2 could seed to the male reproductive tract, especially in the presence of systemic local inflammation. The authors state that “Even if the virus cannot replicate in the; male reproductive system, it may persist, possibly resulting from the privileged immunity of testes.”

Table. Clinical Characteristics of Patients With Positive Test Results for Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 in Semen

Patient ^a	Approximate age, y ^a	Time since onset of symptoms, d	Time since hospitalization, d	Time since clinical recovery, d	Presence of preexisting disease	Other comorbidity
1	20s	8	2	NA ^b	No	Coronary heart disease, Hypertension
2	20s	10	6	NA ^b	No	Coronary heart disease
3	30s	11	5	NA ^b	No	No
4	40s	9	8	NA ^b	No	No
5	50s	11	10	2	Yes	No
6	50s	16	13	3	No	Chronic bronchitis

Abbreviation: NA, not applicable.

^b Patient was still in the acute stage of infection.

^a For the purpose of anonymity, patients are identified by number and their ages are given as approximate.

Source: Li et al., 2020. JAMA Netw Open

Journal Article: Li et al., 2020. [Clinical Characteristics and Results of Semen Tests Among Men With Coronavirus Disease 2019](#). JAMA Network Open

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