Examining the Working Definition for Long COVID

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Interim Federal Working Definition National Research Action Plan on Long COVID

- Long COVID is broadly defined as signs, symptoms, and conditions that continue or develop after initial COVID-19 or SARS-CoV-2 infection. The signs, symptoms, and conditions
 - are present four weeks or more after the initial phase of infection;
 - may be multisystemic;
 - and may present with a relapsing—remitting pattern and progression or worsening over time, with the possibility of severe and life-threatening events even months or years after infection.
- Long COVID is not one condition. It represents many potentially overlapping entities, likely with different biological causes and different sets of risk factors and outcomes.



Charge

- Refine the U.S. Government's current interim working definition of Long COVID and related technical terms for specific uses, including but not limited to, for clinical care, research, surveillance, and health communication.
- The goal of this undertaking is to help patients' access care and services for Long COVID-related conditions, aid clinicians in the diagnosis and treatment of Long COVID, and to begin to harmonize research and surveillance efforts.



Considerations

- Move forward
- Apply lessons learned
- Involve the right people
- Consider emerging information
- Consider what information you need
- Stay focused



Existing Work

- National Research Action Plan on Long COVID
- Examining Long-Term Health Effects of COVID-19 and Implications for the Social Security Administration: Proceedings of a Workshop
- WHO-A clinical case definition of post COVID-19 condition by a Delphi consensus
- Standing Committee Scoping Meetings Recaps
- Infection associated chronic conditions definitions discussion
- Published literature

Discussion and Questions





Appendix - Long COVID Guiding Documents

- Executive Order 13995, Ensuring an Equitable Pandemic Response and Recovery (January 2021)
- Presidents COVID-19 Health Equity Taskforce (October 2021)
- National COVID-19 Preparedness Plan (March 2022)
- Presidential Memo and White House Fact Sheet (April 2022)
- Services and Supports for the Longer-term Impacts of COVID-19 (August 2022)
- National Research Action Plan on Long COVID (August 2022)