

# Blinded by COVID-19 Vaccination. Visual Loss a Cruel Reminder that Vaccine Injury Strikes within Days

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There seems to be no limit on what tissues and organs can be damaged by COVID-19 vaccination. Because lipid nanoparticles laced with genetic code for the damaging Spike protein are distributed throughout the body, bad luck may play a role with disproportionate delivery to a specific area, for example the eyes.

The eyes receive their precious blood supply from the optic artery with no backup or redundancy. Hence, if lipid nanoparticles settle along the artery or into the central nerve taking visual signals to the brain, then inflammation fighting the foreign Spike protein will start a process of tissue damage leading to loss of vision. Indeed, this injury pattern has been described in the medical literature and has been summarized by Dr. Elnahry from Egypt and Dr. Al-Nawaflh from the National Institutes of Health and five additional authors.[i]





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# COVID-19 Vaccine-Associated Optic Neuropathy: A Systematic Review of 45 Patients



Ayman G. Elnahry <sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Mutaz Y. Al-Nawaflh <sup>2,3</sup>, Aisha A. Gamal Eldin <sup>4</sup>, Omar Solyman <sup>5,6</sup>, Ahmed B. Sallam <sup>7</sup>, Paul H. Phillips <sup>7</sup> and Abdelrahman M. Elhusseiny <sup>7</sup>

#### 4. Discussion

In this systematic review of published cases of optic neuropathy following COVID-19 vaccination, we found that COVID-19 vaccination was associated with several forms of optic neuropathy, most commonly AION and optic neuritis. All subtypes of COVID-19 vaccines, including mRNA, viral vector, and inactivated viral vaccines were associated with optic neuropathy. However, protein subunit vaccines, such as the Novavax vaccine, were not reported as a cause of optic neuropathy in the current review. The temporal association between vaccine administration and the development of optic neuropathies in these cases makes a causal link plausible, with a mean time from vaccination to the development of ocular symptoms of  $9.6 \pm 8.7$  days. Cases with a late onset of optic neuropathy, however, are less likely to be related to vaccination and could be coincidental. Vaccines and their adjuvants are meant to robustly activate the innate immune system, and adaptive immunity then follows. Overactivation of this response, however, may occur in some patients and lead to rare immune-mediated complications.



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Elnahry AG, Al-Nawaflh MY, Gamal Eldin AA, Solyman O, Sallam AB, Phillips PH, Elhusseiny AM. COVID-19 Vaccine-Associated Optic Neuropathy: A Systematic Review of 45 Patients. Vaccines (Basel). 2022 Oct 20;10(10):1758. doi: 10.3390/vaccines10101758. PMID: 36298623; PMCID: PMC9609672.

It is important to note that NIH authorship usually requires approval and endorsement. So, this paper serves as a good record the NIH knows about loss of vision after vaccination and is aware of the emerging scientific data. Nowhere on the COVID-19 vaccine consent form or FAQ document does it say you could lose your vision after the injection.

Elnahry and colleagues describe 45 patients (60 eyes) where about 10 days after vaccination there was a substantial loss of visual acuity and confirmation of anterior ischemic optic neuropathy or optic neuritis.

The paper lists every case and how it was treated. Fortunately, most resolved quickly with corticosteroids. Importantly, these conditions can worsen and lead to permanent blindness without treatment. Thus, this paper serves as a good warning to vaccine recipients to pay attention to changes in eyesight and seek a prompt ophthalmologic examination if symptoms occur. There are many more questions to answer from these revelations: 1) do successive injections cumulatively increase the risk of blindness? 2) can this form of optic neuritis recur much later in late and be associated with multiple sclerosis as it did before COVID-19 vaccination?[ii] 3) will the military, employers, schools, and doctors consider either of these vaccine injuries as contra-indications to the next injections? 4) what is the long-term prognosis for all vaccine recipients and eyesight as the human body ages?

Many of you will watch "A Christmas Story" this year and again chuckle when little Ralphie Parker angling for an Official Red Ryder Carbine-Action Two-Hundred-Shot Range Model Air Rifle is horrified with Santa's reply: "you will shoot your eyes out."[iii] It turns out with COVID-19 vaccination, some victims indeed will have their eyes shot out with acute

inflammation and buy a world of regret if precious vision is not restored.

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#### Notes

[i] Elnahry AG, Al-Nawaflh MY, Gamal Eldin AA, Solyman O, Sallam AB, Phillips PH, Elhusseiny AM. COVID-19 Vaccine-Associated Optic Neuropathy: A Systematic Review of 45 Patients. Vaccines (Basel). 2022 Oct 20;10(10):1758. doi: 10.3390/vaccines10101758. PMID: 36298623; PMCID: PMC9609672.

[ii] Petzold A, Fraser CL, Abegg M, Alroughani R, Alshowaeir D, Alvarenga R, Andris C, Asgari N, Barnett Y, Battistella R, Behbehani R, Berger T, Bikbov MM, Biotti D, Biousse V, Boschi A, Brazdil M, Brezhnev A, Calabresi PA, Cordonnier M, Costello F, Cruz FM, Cunha LP, Daoudi S, Deschamps R, de Seze J, Diem R, Etemadifar M, Flores-Rivera J, Fonseca P, Frederiksen J, Frohman E, Frohman T, Tilikete CF, Fujihara K, Gálvez A, Gouider R, Gracia F, Grigoriadis N, Guajardo JM, Habek M, Hawlina M, Martínez-Lapiscina EH, Hooker J, Hor JY, Howlett W, Huang-Link Y, Idrissova Z, Illes Z, Jancic J, Jindahra P, Karussis D, Kerty E, Kim HJ, Lagrèze W, Leocani L, Levin N, Liskova P, Liu Y, Maiga Y, Marignier R, McGuigan C, Meira D, Merle H, Monteiro MLR, Moodley A, Moura F, Muñoz S, Mustafa S, Nakashima I, Noval S, Oehninger C, Ogun O, Omoti A, Pandit L, Paul F, Rebolleda G, Reddel S, Rejdak K, Rejdak R, Rodriguez-Morales AJ, Rougier MB, Sa MJ, Sanchez-Dalmau B, Saylor D, Shatriah I, Siva A, Stiebel-Kalish H, Szatmary G, Ta L, Tenembaum S, Tran H, Trufanov Y, van Pesch V, Wang AG, Wattjes MP, Willoughby E, Zakaria M, Zvornicanin J, Balcer L, Plant GT. Diagnosis and classification of optic neuritis. Lancet Neurol. 2022 Dec;21(12):1120-1134. doi: 10.1016/S1474-4422(22)00200-9. Epub 2022 Sep 27. PMID: 36179757.

#### [iii] Youtube video

Featured image is from Shutterstock

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