

The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Patients with Ulcerative Colitis: Results From a Global Ulcerative Colitis Narrative Patient Survey

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- The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic created challenges related to disease management for patients with ulcerative colitis (UC)
- The UC Narrative COVID-19 survey was conducted from August–December 2021 among adults with UC from the United States, Canada, Japan, France, and Finland
- Patients were questioned on disease management, health care access and experience, and preferences for interactions with their doctor

Of 584 patients with UC who qualified for and completed the survey:



25% of patients experienced more flares during the pandemic vs 2019



88% of patients taking prescription medication were very/somewhat satisfied with their current treatment plan

53% of patients were hesitant to make changes to their treatment plan during the pandemic



More patients relied on certain alternative support systems during the pandemic



In-person appointments were preferred by:

- **68%** of patients when meeting a new doctor
- **55%** of patients when experiencing a flare
- **52%** of patients for regular check-ups



41% of patients preferred virtual appointments for UC prescription refills

Factors affecting patients' control of UC symptoms during the COVID-19 pandemic

a) Factors that made controlling the symptoms of UC easier

Having fewer social outings	37%
Working from home	29%
Having a less busy schedule	28%

b) Factors that made controlling the symptoms of UC more difficult

Having more anxiety/stress	43%
Being hesitant to go into a hospital or office to receive care or treatment	34%

Proportions of patients reporting satisfaction with overall quality of care received during in-person and virtual appointments during the COVID-19 pandemic

In-person appointments



Very/somewhat satisfied (total)

81%

Virtual appointments



Very/somewhat satisfied (total)

81%

During the pandemic, most patients were satisfied with their current UC treatment plan and access to care; more patients relied on certain alternative UC management support systems, and many were impacted by anxiety/stress

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