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| A picture containing text  Description automatically generated | **RESEARCH ARTICLE / VIEWPOINT REVIEW FORM** |

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| **ARTICLE NUMBER:** | 3199-2022 |

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| **ARTICLE TITLE:** | Is Long COVID the next global health crisis? |

Please evaluate this manuscript with the above criterion in mind and the following questions:

**1. Are the methodological approach, including statistical and other analyses, performed at the sufficient technical standard level and described in sufficient detail?**

Yes / No / Not applicable

**2. Is the manuscript written according to the appropriate reporting guidelines, such as GATHER for health estimates, CONSORT for clinical trials, or STROBE for observational studies (see http://www.equator-network.org/library/ for the current list of reporting guidelines)?**

Yes / No / Not applicable

**3. Does the research described in the manuscript meet relevant ethical standards? Has the research been performed in a responsible way?**

Yes / No / Not applicable

**4. Are the conclusions clearly presented? Are they supported by the data presented in the manuscript?**

Yes / No / Not applicable

**5. Is the manuscript written in a clear, standard language? Is it of sufficient quality that it does not need language editing?**

Yes / No / Not applicable

**COMMENTS (general and specific comments):**

This is a timely viewpoint on Long COVID which is very well written and presented. Since the authors undertook an ambitious goal to present the readers with an overview of the issue and provide some of their own views, I would like to encourage them to strengthen and expand some parts of their paper:

I think that they should include a sub-section on the WHO, UK and US definitions on long COVID, with some discussion on how do they differ and why, and whether we’re likely to have an unifying definition anytime soon;

We thank the reviewer for this comment. We have inserted a sub-section that discuss the need for consistency in defining and implementing services to address a global need. Please see page 4, lines 15-30 and page 5, lines 1-10.

Also, it would be interesting to make a brief overview of health system responses and seriousness with which this emerging global health issue is being addressed in different countries and incorporated into legislation and medical practice.

We have added comments about the status of healthcare provision into the manuscript. Please see page 6 – lines 18-29 and page 7, lines 1-2.

It would also be good to touch upon the prospects of children being affected and how is this different from adult long COVID.

Very interesting point. Whilst there is a lack of empirical evidence there is an understanding that this affects children more seriously and its prevalence is rising fast. What is also important and something we have also added a comment on is a question of children that are living with a parent/carer that has LC and this should be an area of consideration. Please see page 6 lines 26-29 and page 8, lines 3-8.

Some mention of similarities with already well-known syndroms and what this might mean for research progress in those fields would also be useful.

Agreed. This has been included on page 6, lines 24-26.

Otherwise, an interesting and welcome contribution.

Thank you!