

**Abstract Submission No.: A-0394**

**Impact of COVID-19 outbreak on the incidence of uveitis and TINU syndrome  
in Korean children**

**Min Ji Park**<sup>1</sup>, Min Hyun Cho<sup>1</sup>, Peong Gang Park<sup>2</sup>, Yo Han Ahn<sup>2</sup>, Hee Gyung Kang<sup>2</sup>, Se Jin Park<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Pediatrics-Nephrology, Kyungpook National University Hospital, Korea, Republic of

<sup>2</sup>Department of Pediatrics-Nephrology, Seoul National University Hospital, Korea, Republic of

<sup>3</sup>Department of Pediatrics-Nephrology, Eulji University Hospital, Korea, Republic of

**Objectives :** TINU (Tubulointerstitial nephritis with Uveitis) syndrome is relatively rare disease, first reported in 1975 and can be diagnosed when acute tubulointerstitial nephritis and uveitis accompanied. This retrospective study was planned to reveal the impact of COVID-19 outbreak on the incidence of uveitis and TINU syndrome in Korean children.

**Methods :** The medical records of pediatric patients diagnosed with uveitis and TINU syndrome at two national hospitals from 2000 to 2023 were retrospectively reviewed. This period was divided into two distinct periods: before (2000-2019) and during COVID-19 outbreak (2020-2023) and compared with each other.

**Results :** During COVID-19 outbreak, the number of pediatric patients diagnosed with uveitis increased 6.5 times compared to the 20 years before the outbreak. Likewise, compared to only 3 pediatric patients diagnosed with TINU syndrome during 20 years before the outbreak, 12 pediatric patients were diagnosed with TINU syndrome during COVID-19 outbreak, which was abruptly increased (26.7 times). However, one of the 12 patients had a history of COVID-19 infection confirmed 3 months prior to diagnosis, and the other 11 patients could not confirm the direct causal relationship with the history of COVID-19 infection. Eleven of total 12 patients visited the ophthalmologist first due to eye congestion and blurred vision, were diagnosed with uveitis. After then they were referred to the department of pediatrics and confirmed as TINU syndrome. 7 (58.3%) of 12 patients were accompanied by decreased renal function at the time of diagnosis and they took immunosuppressive treatment as corticosteroid. During the follow-up period, most of them had resolution of tubular proteinuria and improvement of kidney function.

**Conclusions :** It was considered that COVID-19 outbreak increased the incidence of uveitis and TINU syndrome in Korean children. Further nationwide study is needed.