

# Obesity is risk factor for COVID-19 hospital admission in patients under 60

April 16 2020

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Obesity is associated with admission to the hospital for coronavirus

disease 2019 (COVID-19) patients, according to a study published online April 9 in *Clinical Infectious Diseases* and a study not yet peer reviewed and posted on medRxiv.org.

Jennifer Lighter, M.D., from the NYU School of Medicine/NYU Langone Health in New York City, and colleagues conducted a retrospective analysis of body mass index (BMI) stratified by age in symptomatic patients who were positive for COVID-19 during March 4 to April 4, 2020. The researchers found that 21 percent of the 3,615 individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 had a BMI of 30 to 34 kg/m<sup>2</sup> and 16 percent had a BMI ≥35 kg/m<sup>2</sup>. Among patients aged 65 years and obesity.

"It is notable that the [chronic condition](#) with the strongest association with [critical illness](#) was obesity, with a substantially higher odds ratio than any cardiovascular or [pulmonary disease](#)," Petrilli and colleagues write.

**More information:** [Abstract/Full Text - Lighter \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)  
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