

# How COVID-19 impacts HCP channel preferences and the ongoing health implications of COVID-19 on long hauler patients

European Thought Leadership

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#### **IQVIA** speakers for today's session



Sarah Rickwood

Vice President

EMEA Thought Leadership and Marketing



Natalie Harb

Senior Principal

Global Consulting & Analytics Solutions



### **Agenda**

- + COVID-19's Impact on HCP's Channel Preferences
- + HCP's Feedback on the Ongoing Health Implications of COVID-19 Long Haulers Across the EU4 & UK
- + Closing Remarks
- + Q&A





# Impact of COVID-19 on the Pharmaceutical Market – EU4+UK

HCP Channel Preference in an increasing complex environment

Sarah Rickwood, VP, EMEA Thought Leadership & Marketing

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#### In this section we will cover-

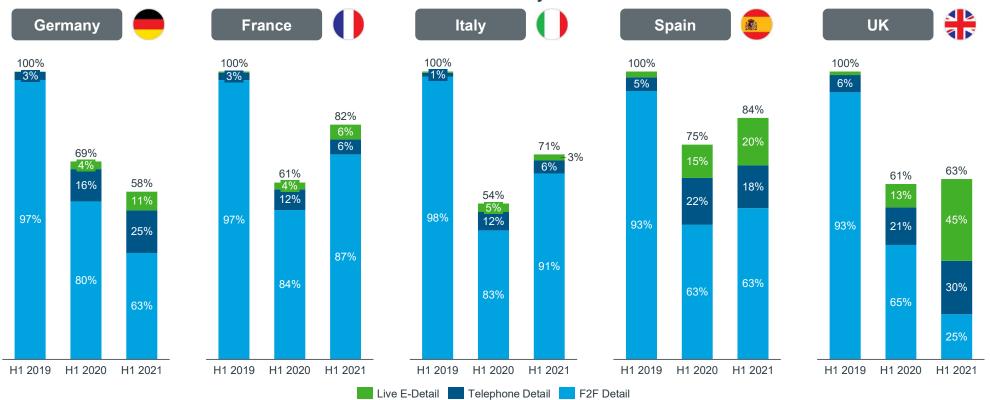
- + What does the current promotional landscape look like and how has it changed since COVID-19?
- + How has the pandemic impacted HCP channel preference and what are they looking for in the future?
- + How can companies address the increasing complexity in HCP engagement?



# Mid-way through 2021, amount of interactive time with HCPs is still well below pre-pandemic levels

Spain and UK have shown the strongest pivot to digital detailing channels





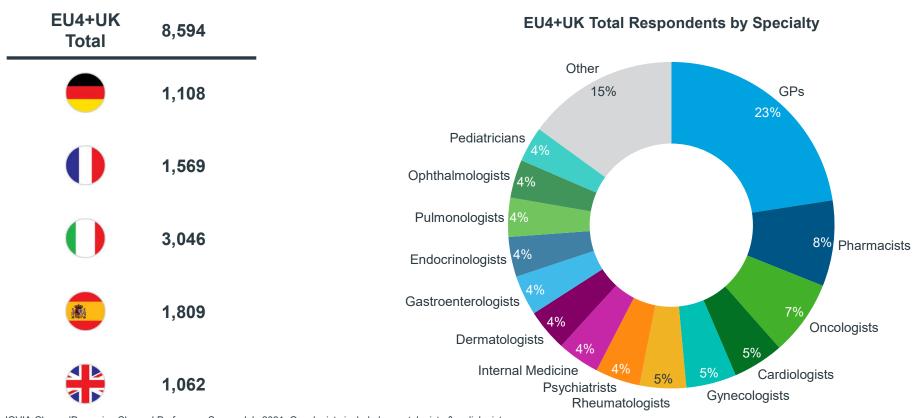
Source: IQVIA EMEA Thought Leadership; ChannelDynamics July 2021

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# We surveyed over 8500 HCPs across EU4+UK, covering a wide variety of specialties



Source: IQVIA ChannelDynamics Channel Preference Survey July 2021; Oncologists include haematologists & radiologists; Endocrinologists include diabetologists & diabetic nurses; Internal medicine includes infectious disease

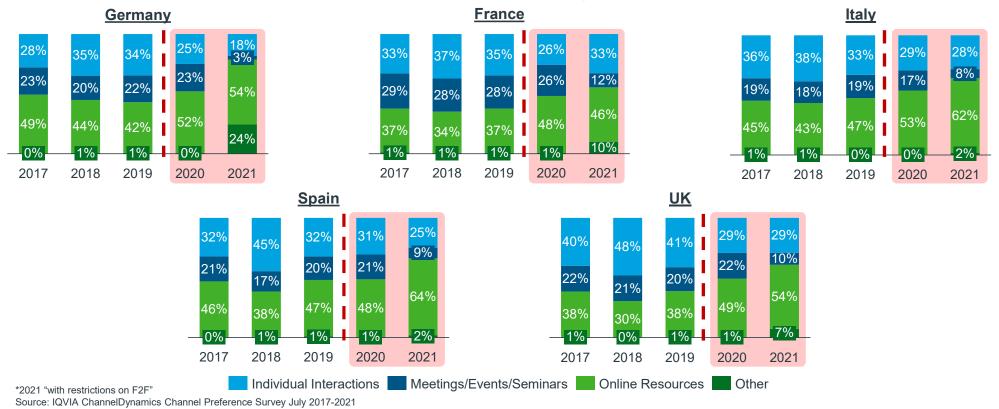




# Pre-pandemic, HCP channel preference was relatively stable, but significant shifts were driven by the pandemic

Restrictions on F2F due to COVID-19 drove an increase in preference for online resources





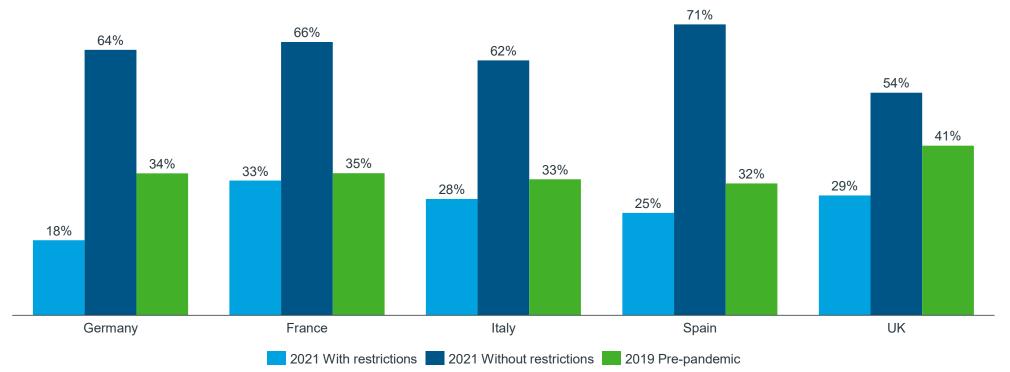
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# When asked to consider a context with no restrictions on F2F, HCP preference for individual interactions bounces back

On average, preference for rep interactions in an unrestricted future were 37% higher than in the 2021 restricted context, and 28% higher than pre-pandemic levels

#### **HCP Preference for Individual Interactions (July 2021)**



Source: IQVIA ChannelDynamics Channel Preference Survey July 2021, 2020, 2019

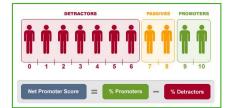
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### In practice, HCP perception of interaction quality varies across channels and countries

NPS for live e-detailing is higher than for F2F in most of the EU4+UK

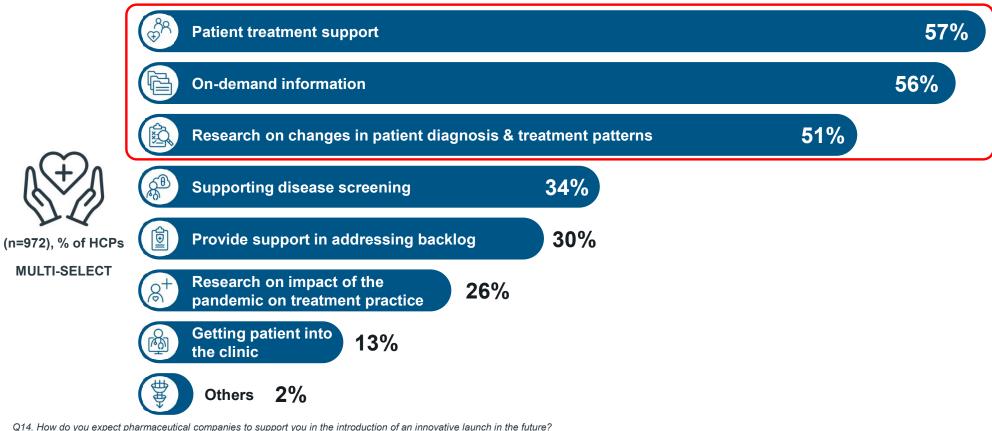
Channel Net Promoter Score (NPS) – Channel Recommendation MAT Q1 2021							
Traditional Channels					#		
F2F Detailing	7%	8%	24%	27%	19%		
Telephone Detailing	11%	-16%	17%	12%	2%		
• F2F Meetings	31%	37%	34%	40%	42%		
Digital Channels							
Live e-detailing	25%	22%	11%	36%	24%		
Live e-meeting	27%	34%	31%	30%	27%		
Automated e-detailing	-7%	-2%	-6%	-9%	-6%		
Automated e-meetings	-7%	35%	15%	1%	3%		
• E-mail	-19%	-47%	-3%	-8%	-27%		



Source: IQVIA EMEA Thought Leadership; ChannelDynamics MAT Q1 2021
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#### Previous survey of HCPs in the EU4+UK showed more than half want research/support on diagnosis and treatment, on demand



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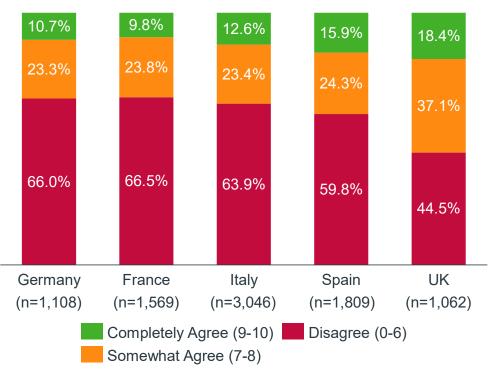




# Looking forward, around one third of HCPs do believe that virtual rep interactions will be sufficient to meet their needs

In the UK it is over half

#### HCP satisfaction with virtual detailing (July 2021)



Source: IQVIA Channel Preference Survey July 2021

Thinking about a **post-COVID-19 crisis** context, please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement:

"Remote interactions with pharma representatives via online tools such as Skype, Zoom, Webex... will be sufficient in meeting my needs for up to date and relevant drug treatment information "

Scored 0-10

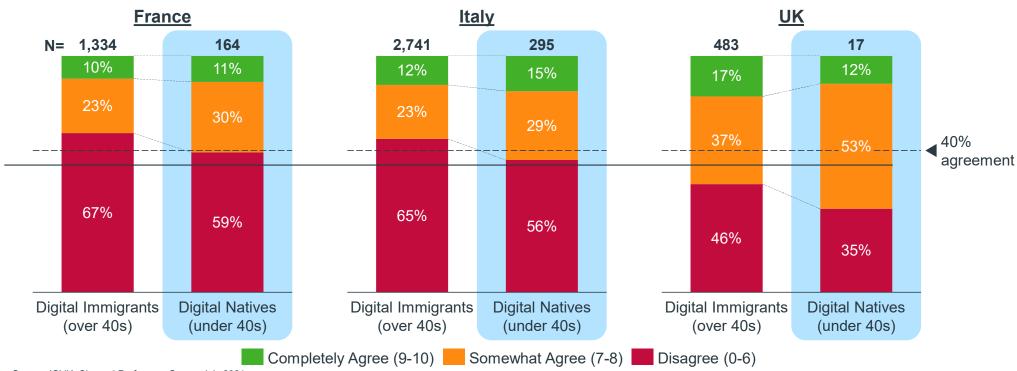




#### Younger HCPs tend to be more confident in virtual interactions

They are also the minority of respondents – most valuable customers currently in the older group





Source: IQVIA Channel Preference Survey July 2021

Note: in EU4+UK, there is insufficient data in post-1980 in Germany and Spain, hence not included



# The promotional environment and HCP needs are becoming increasingly complex

#### Challenge of access to HCPs will remain

Even as formal restrictions lifted, volume of F2F did not return to pre-pandemic levels and interactive time is still down. This will likely continue to be the case as we continue to manage the third wave of infections & the Delta variant

### Importance of on-demand when F2F is restricted

While F2F interactions are not possible, HCPs prefer to access information through emails and self-serve channels

#### Strong appetite for return to F2F

HCPs are keen to get back to normal with over 60% preferring F2F interactions when not restricted.

The rep relationship is still key

### Virtual interactions sufficient for some

Around one third of HCPs believe virtual calls can meet their needs in future. This proportion is **even higher among younger doctors** 

Industry must balance complex customer needs, variation across countries, and opportunities for efficiencies





# Impact of COVID-19 on the Pharmaceutical Market – EU4+UK

HCP's feedback on the ongoing health implications of COVID-19 long haulers across the EU4 & UK

Natalie Harb, Practice Leader, Performance Management

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### Our definition of COVID-19 long haulers and a note on HCP surveyed estimates of long haulers prevalence



COVID long haulers are recovered COVID-19 patients who are now suffering with other new conditions as a result of contracting COVID-19. These new conditions are also known as Long COVID, post-acute sequelae of SARS-CoV-2 infection, post-acute sequelae of COVID-19 (PASC), chronic COVID syndrome (CCS) and long-haul COVID.

Post-acute sequelae of COVID-19 (PASC) can affect nearly every organ system with sequelae including respiratory system disorders, nervous system and neurocognitive disorders, mental health disorders, metabolic disorders, cardiovascular disorders, gastrointestinal disorders, malaise, fatigue, musculoskeletal pain, and anemia

The prevalence of COVID long haulers is still being studied, and estimates, dependent on the specific definition of COVID long haulers and the study instrument used, are currently quite variable. New research findings are being regularly published from a range of sources. **The estimates provided in this research are based on surveyed Healthcare Professional respondents' reports.** 

#### Couple of things to highlight ...

- Sample sizes are not representative at country level. In addition, the sample composition is slightly different at the country level. This could lead to some of the difference noted at country level
- This was a pulse survey. The questions asked are intended to provide top level insight into what HCP's across the EU4 & UK are experiencing
- Estimates of prevalence (i.e., % of people that are now defined as long haulers) vary a lot between different studies conducted worldwide. For eg: In the UK, ONS survey found that 1 in 40 COVID-19 patients is now defined as a long hauler (by the definition used for the ONS survey)
- The data shown throughtout this presentation represent HCP's views from the research conducted for the purpose of this presentation. IQVIA undertakes no obligation to update them, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise

# We interviewed ~700 HCPs, across a mix of specialties to understand the ongoing health implications of COVID-19 long haulers

Sample Split

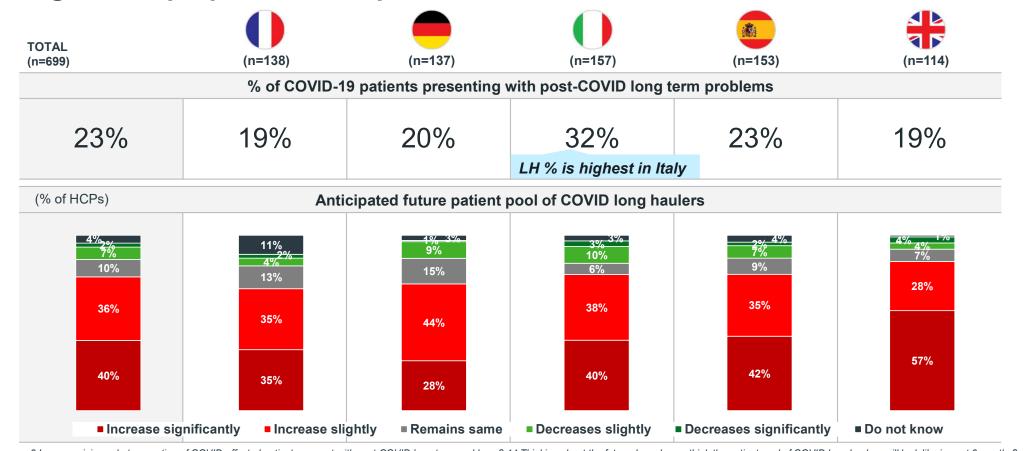
LOI: 8min quantitative surveys Time period: mid-August – mid-September		(n=138)	(n=137)	(n=157)	(n=153)	(n=114)
General Practitioner	23%	25%	23%	20%	20%	27%
Cardiologist	14%	16%	17%	13%	14%	11%
Pulmonologist	11%	13%	12%	10%	10%	13%
Neurologist	12%	13%	14%	13%	13%	7%
Psychiatrist	15%	15%	15%	15%	14%	16%
Nephrologist	9%	8%	12%	10%	10%	7%
Endo/Diab	11%	7%	5%	13%	13%	18%
Pediatrician	4%	3%	4%	6%	7%	1%

(n=699)

S1. What is your primary medical specialty? Source: IQVIA Primary Market Research



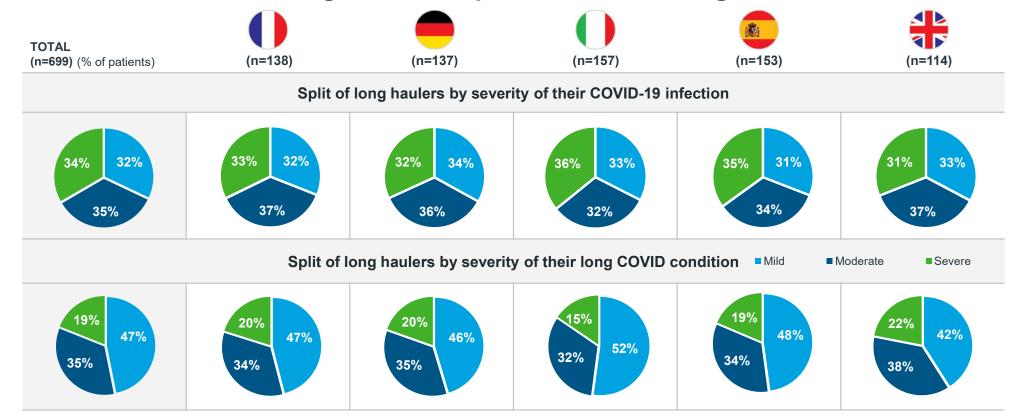
# HCPs interviewed reported 1 in 5 COVID-19 patients as long haulers; a significant proportion anticipate this number to increase in next 6 months



3.In your opinion, what proportion of COVID-affected patients present with post-COVID long-term problems? 14.Thinking about the future, how do you think the patient pool of COVID long haulers will look like in next 6 months? Source: IQVIA Primary Market Research



# According to HCPs, severity of COVID infection has no relation to long hauler status; most long haulers experience a mild long COVID condition



4. Thinking about the COVID long hauler patient segment, please split them by severity of COVID-19 infection.
5. In your best estimates, please split the COVID long hauler patient population by the level of severity of their long-term problems.

Source: IQVIA Primary Market Research

**COVID-19 Long Hauler Severity:** 

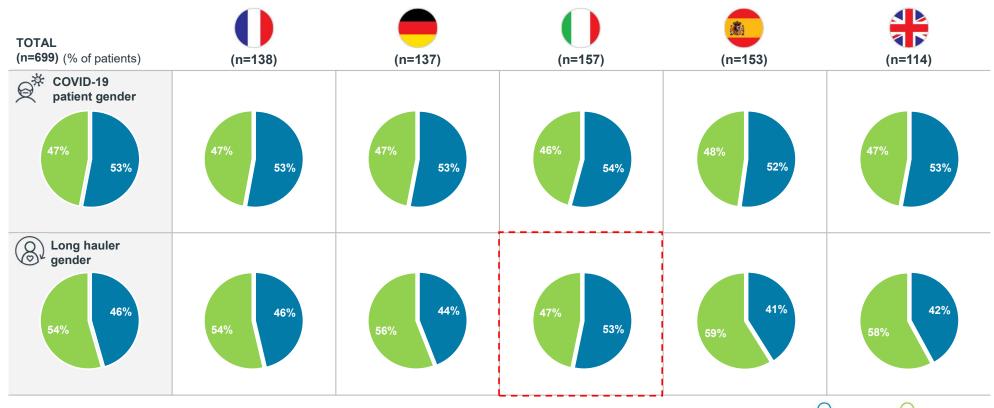
Mild severity: Defined as sufficiently significant to seek medical help for, but not impeding day to day activities

Moderate severity: Defined as impeding but not entirely preventing day to day activities

High severity: Defined as life altering, completely preventing day to day activities and normal function



# HCPs reported most of COVID-19 patients are male; however, they said long haulers were predominantly female



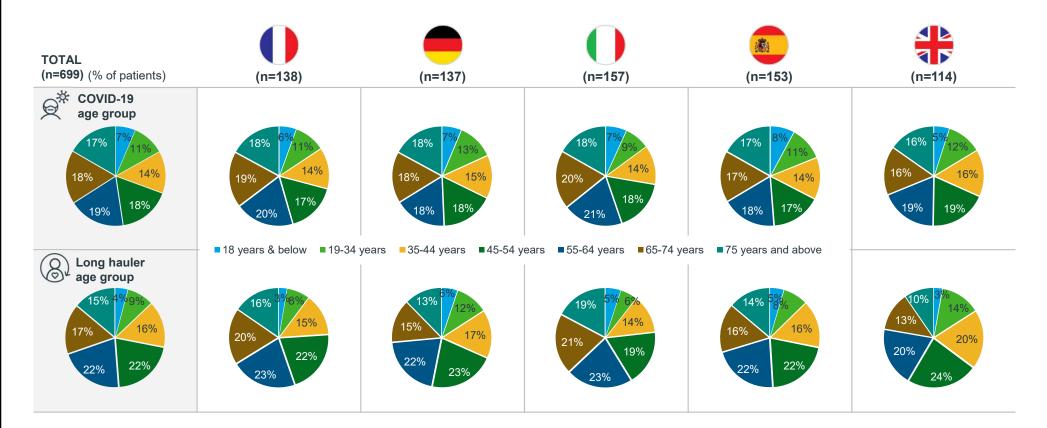
6. Please split the your COVID-affected and COVID long hauler patient population by gender Source: IQVIA Primary Market Research

Male





# HCPs reported COVID-19 patients and long haulers have similar distribution of age group



<sup>7.</sup> Please split the your COVID-affected and COVID long hauler patient population across below age groups Source: IQVIA Primary Market Research

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#### HCPs identified obesity & diabetes as key risk factors for long haulers

Risk factors (n=699, % of HCPs)	n=138	n=137	n=157	n=153	n=114
75% Obesity	80%	74%	73%	74%	75%
68% Diabetes	73%	58%	72%	62%	73%
55% Smoking	46%	65%	54%	56%	54%
53% History of mental disorder	44%	62%	46%	49%	69%
53% Immunodeficiency disorders	55%	61%	49%	46%	54%
49% High blood pressure	58%	54%	48%	46%	39%
47% Ischemic heart disease	48%	37%	58%	40%	51%
41% Kidney disease	45%	39%	39%	36%	51%
8% No direct linkage	11%	9%	3%	8%	8%

Other risk factors include: Respiratory pathologies, Autoimmune disease, Psychiatric disorders, Vasculitis; 9.In your opinion, what are the risk factors for long haulers?

Italian physicians associate long haulers with some or other risk factor



#### HCPs reported Respiratory as the most prevalent long hauler condition

Conditions of long haulers (% of patients)	(n=138)	(n=137)	(n=157)	(n=153)	(n=114)
35% Respiratory	38%	35%	34%	34%	34%
21% Neurological	22%	24%	19%	22%	19%
20% Behavioral	21%	17%	21%	20%	19%
16% Cardiovascular	15%	16%	17%	15%	16%
8% Nephrological GγĐ	9%	9%	7%	8%	9%
18% Others*	16%	20%	22%	15%	16%

<sup>\*</sup>Others include fatigue, musculoskeletal, dermatological, rheumatological, gastroenterological, psychiatric, myalgia, etc.
8.Please split the COVID long hauler patient population across following categories of new/worsened conditions arising due to COVID

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# HCPs reported fatigue and shortness of breath as the top 2 symptoms that long haulers presented

#### Symptoms' presentation

(n=699, % of HCPs)











	77% Fatigue	57% Shortness of breath	50% Depression & Anxiety	48% Memory & concentration prob	37% Brain fog
n=138	81%	64%	46%	36%	27% Headache 35%
n=137	76%	69%	55%	61%	36% Headache 37%
n=157	69%	43%	50%	37%	32%
n=153	80%	46%	48%	57%	42% Headache 44%
n=114	76%	64%	53%	50%	54%

<sup>10.</sup> What are the top 5 common symptoms/conditions presented/complained by long haulers?

The call-outs represent other major symptoms in particular countries



# According to HCPs, physical examinations & sign/symptoms are the top 2 ways of confirming diagnosis of long haulers

#### Diagnostic tests for long haulers

(n=699, % of HCPs)	Total	n=138	n=137	n=157	n=153	n=114
Physical examination	83%	76%	91%	82%	82%	87%
Sign/symptoms	78%	67%	80%	71%	90%	82%
ECG, Chest X-ray, or CT Scan	71%	67%	71%	64%	73%	83%
Complete blood picture	70%	72%	74%	64%	67%	78%
C-reactive protein for inflammation level	64%	61%	66%	59%	60%	78%
Kidney function test	54%	46%	51%	44%	59%	72%
Liver function test	46%	36%	36%	35%	54%	75%
D-dimer test	40%	30%	36%	45%	48%	40%
Complete urine examination	36%	22%	50%	32%	34%	45%
Others*	10%	5%	14%	11%	10%	13%

<sup>\*</sup>Others include Echocardiogram, Spirometry, Pulmonary function testing, Brain MRI, Electromyography, Chest radiograph, Natriuretic Peptide Tests (BNP), Stress test with oxygen consumption, Ergometry, Psychiatric assessment, Electroencephalography, HbA1C etc.: 11.Please specify the tests and examinations you undertake to confirm diagnosis of COVID long hauler

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# HCPs report the variety of symptoms, lack of standard definition and specific treatments are the major challenges in long haulers management

#### Challenges in management of long haulers

(n=699, % of HCPs)	Total	n=138	n=137	n=157	n=153	n=114
Wide variability of symptoms	77%	83%	81%	60%	76%	91%
No specific treatment for long haulers	73%	75%	72%	61%	82%	77%
Lack of any standardized definition to classify patients into long hauler segment	72%	67%	66%	73%	81%	73%
Multiple manifestations appearing together	56%	53%	46%	50%	57%	79%
Lack of proper treatment to manage different manifestations	51%	51%	53%	44%	54%	54%
Long treatment process	44%	40%	55%	39%	43%	46%
Emergence of newer health problems	37%	39%	24%	33%	46%	41%
Patients' compliance to treatment	16%	16%	18%	15%	16%	18%
Others	1%	1%	1%	-	1%	4%

<sup>12.</sup> What are the major challenges you face in the management of long hauler symptoms?

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Support Required from Pharmaceutical Industry

# HCPs want support in developing tests and treatment guidelines for long haulers; in FR, IT, & the UK post COVID-19 centers are also desired

(n=699, % of HCPs) Support development of testing and treatment	n=138	n=137	n=157	n=153	n=114
guidelines for systematic identification and treatment  Post-COVID recovery programs  57%	48%	64%	70%	65%	68%
Establish specialized post-COVID	54%	64%	29%	69%	73%
centers Support from pharma	55%	55%	58%	39%	57%
Build awareness on proper clinical testing for patients demonstrating symptoms of long COVID  companies in management of long hauler	34%	47%	57%	62%	57%
Online support for long	36%	38%	31%	42%	48%
COVID Issues	25%	30%	28%	43%	42%
to avoid visiting multiple physicians	20%	18%	13%	27%	22%
Financial support to long haulers					

15. What support do you need from the pharmaceutical companies to help in management of COVID long haulers?

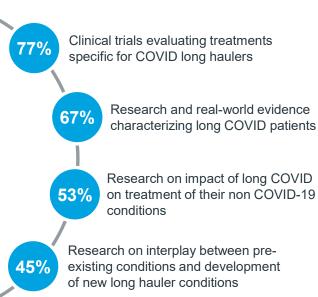
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### HCPs report they want clinical trials & RWE for evaluating COVID long hauler treatments

### Research Support from pharma companies

(% of HCPs)



n=138	n=137	n=157	n=153	n=114
73%	82%	75%	76%	77%
67%	69%	61%	62%	77%
51%	50%	48%	55%	62%
38%	50%	39%	53%	48%

16.What kind of research support do you anticipate from the pharma companies for management of COVID long haulers?





### **Agenda**

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#### Managing the complexity means a Connected Intelligence approach

Winning customer strategies must address...







#### Segmentation

- Understanding individual customer channel preference and behaviour
- Enable differentiated segment strategies

#### **Individualised Experience**

- HCPs value individualised & personal interactions – importance of relationship
- Easily accessible & relevant on-demand materials
- Future customer more open to digital channels & new way working

#### **Intelligent Hybrid Model**

- All channels must be viable and deliver value
- AI/ML to understand & track all promotional touchpoints
- Challenging mindsets on what customers want vs. commercial realities



### With the evolving nature and size of long haulers, there is much that the pharmaceutical industry can do to support effective management

What HCPs reported in this survey

**One in Four** patients with COVID-19 infection present to them as long haulers, with half of them having mild condition. They expect this number to **increase over next 6 months** 

Majority of the long haulers are **female.** However, the long COVID condition is **not** restricted to any **specific age group.** 

Patients present with **variable symptoms** (respiratory, neurological and behavioral being most frequent) and **multitude of tests** are undertaken to confirm diagnosis

HCPs report the **variety of symptoms, lack of standard definition and specific treatments** are the major challenges in long haulers management

#### How can industry support?

With the gaps in current management, there are multiple areas where physicians and HCPs seek support from industry:

- Development of testing and treatment guidelines for systematic identification and treatment
- Clinical trials evaluating treatments specific for COVID long haulers
- Research and real-world evidence characterizing long COVID patients



#### Q&A



Sarah Rickwood

Vice President

EMEA Thought Leadership and Marketing



Natalie Harb

Senior Principal

Global Consulting & Analytics Solutions

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### Thank you

Please connect with following in case any further information is needed:

- Natalie Harb, Practice Leader Performance Management (<u>natalie.harb@it.imshealth.com</u>)
- Sarah Rickwood, VP, Thought Leadership EMEA (<u>srickwood@uk.imshealth.com</u>)