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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.medin.2021.12.007>

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Reply to ‘‘Ample evidence suggests SARS-CoV-2 triggers polyradiculitis’’



Respuesta a «Una amplia evidencia sugiere que el SARS-CoV-2 desencadena la polirradiculitis»

Dear Editor:

Firstly, we would like to thank Finsterer and their partners for reading our article¹ with so much interest and dedication. As well as the *Medicina Intensiva* Journal for their kindness allowing us to make the reply that we will develop next.

In June 2020, we published in the online version of this journal, an article² showing the clinical case of a 55 year old patient with SARS-CoV-2 infection and neurological symptoms, in which after performing the relevant tests, a sensory-motor polyneuropathy was detected. Being this article, the first Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) case reported in Spain, in the course of an infection by the SARS-CoV-2 virus and in addition, supporting the hipótesis spread from China, in January 2020, GBS associated with SARS-CoV-2, chance or coincidence?³

Subsequently, such was our concern that we conducted a bibliographic search in the Medline database (PubMed) on published cases of GBS in the worldwide context of SARS-CoV-2 infection. Starting from December 2019 to June 30, 2020, with a total of 39 clinical cases reported. Immediately after the data collection and statistical analysis, we sent a letter to the editor of the *Medicina Intensiva* Journal; available online since September 2020 and titled: SARS-CoV-2, a new causative agent of Guillain-Barré syndrome?¹ Finsterer et al., show their disagreement due to the lack of conviction in our publication about the association of GBS and SARS-CoV-2, and even allude to the fact that vac-

nation can also trigger GBS. From our utmost respect, we would like to emphasize the time difference, more than a year between both publications. Therefore, the experience and the increase in the number of subsequent cases have shown the strength of the SARS-CoV-2 and GBS association. On the whole, the authors, when writing these publications, only suspected this binomial. Furthermore, the process of immunization by the vaccines had not even started.

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.medin.2022.01.014>

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