

COV/GLA/20/05 - Cardiac Imaging in SARS Coronavirus disease-19 (CISCO-19)

One-in-four patients with COVID-19 pneumonia develop life-threatening heart problems. Our research idea is that virus can directly infect the heart. We will study which patients are at-risk of heart injury and why only some patients suffer heart problems. MRI scans help doctors identify heart damage and its causes and explain blood tests such as those for troponin (protein released into the bloodstream during a heart attack). During a 3-month period, hospitalised patients with COVID-19 will have blood tests and then a heart-lung scan after discharge. We will clarify links between the heart/lungs & risk factors to support development of preventive therapies.