

The manuscript presented a very interesting and in principle valuable research that described a specific approach to preventing a COVID-19 outbreak in the thoracic surgery ward at a hospital in West China. The choice of this content was lack of novelty. There are several issues that I would like to discuss with you, 1. Many previous studies about nosocomial infections with COVID-19 are not cited. 2. The authors go well beyond the data in stating: "our study makes a significant contribution to the literature. It documents lessons learned in developing and deploying a system to protect staff and vulnerable inpatients during the unprecedented and highly challenging situation that has been the COVID-19 pandemic." 2. I must also comment on the use of English. I am afraid that I sense a number of inconsistencies, while at the same time the language needs improvement.

Thank you very much for your opinions for my manuscript. I agreed to transfer my paper to the World Journal of Virology, and I have revised the manuscript as you told.

Best regards,

Lin Lin