

Nov. 11th, 2020

Lian-Sheng Ma, Company Editor-in-Chief, Editorial Office
Baishideng Publishing Group Inc

Name of Journal: World Journal of Clinical Cases

Manuscript NO.: 56814

Column: Editorial

Title: Understanding the immunopathogenesis of COVID-19: its implication for therapeutic strategy

Dear Prof. Ma,

Please find enclosed the revised Editorial manuscript in Word format (file name: 56814-Revised, Shimizu, Editorial.doc). I have revised my manuscript according to the reviewer.

The response to the reviewer's comment.

The reviewer stated that "there is no scientific basis for the use of arbitrary hypothetical medications for COVID without clear evidence-based evidence. In fact, COVID infection is mainly symptomatic and supportive treatment, and other antiviral drugs may be unnecessary or even harmful." The point the reviewer made is right under the current situation without any proven antiviral drugs effective for the disease. However, because the disease is a viral infection, the core therapeutic strategy, at least theoretically, should be aimed at the eradication of the virus. Moreover, symptomatic or supportive therapy should be based on the understanding of the pathogenesis caused by viral replication and the immune response against the virus. Therefore, understanding the viral kinetics and the immune response is important for the effective therapeutic strategy. I revised or added those statements in the revised manuscript according to the reviewer's comment. I also revised some parts of the manuscript because I have submitted my manuscript 6 months before, and several new data including dexamethasone have been reported after that point.

All the revised portions are now underlined.

I hope that my revised manuscript can be acceptable for the reviewer and the Editorial

Office.

Best regards,

Yukihiro Shimizu

Japan