

Reviewer #1:

Specific Comments to Authors: Dear authors, Some corrections are suggested in this study: 1. Check and correct a total patients in methods (A total of 197 patients were included in this study. The median age of the 97 male and 104 female patients was 45 years) In this paragraph you say 97 men and 104 women. If yes the total is 201 patients and not 197. 197 patients or 201 patients? Check and correct.

Answer: Thank reviewer 1 for finding this problem! After we checking, the total number of 197 was correct, "The median age of the 97 male" was a clerical error, which should be "93 male", which was consistent with Table 1.

2. A PRISMA analysis is required. I recommend doing a PRISMA analysis for the review. Use the PRISMA checklist and to report the selected studies use the PRISMA flow diagram.

Answer: According to request of reviewer 1, we added PRISMA flow diagram in Figure 1(adding "identification, Screening, eligibility and included" label) and provided PRISMA checklist accompanying this manuscript. In accordance with the contents of PRISMA checklist, we supplemented corresponding contents in main text, which were all marked by red color.

3. Do not use abbreviations in keywords. If you prefer you can use only the abbreviations but not a set. For example: Acute respiratory distress syndrome or ARDS not Acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS). Best regards.

Answer: We deleted abbreviations of keywords after their full name.

EDITORIAL OFFICE'S COMMENTS

Science editor: 1 Scientific quality: The manuscript describes a retrospective study of the risk factors of ARDS in COVID-19. The topic is within the scope of the WJCC. (1) Classification: Grade C; (2) Summary of the Peer-Review Report: This is an interesting study, and the manuscript is well written. However, there are some issues should be addressed. Check and correct a total patient in methods. A PRISMA analysis is required. The questions raised by the reviewers should be answered;

Answer: We answered all of three questions of reviewer 1, please see above answers to reviewer 1.

and (3) Format: There are 3 tables and 1 figure. A total of 20 references are cited, including 17 references published in the 2020. There are no self-citations. 2 Language evaluation: Classification: Grade B. A language editing certificate issued by MedE was provided. 3 Academic norms and rules: The authors provided the Biostatistics Review Certificate and the Institutional Review Board Approval Form. Written informed consent was waived. The authors need to provide the signed Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form and Copyright License Agreement.

Answer: We provided the signed Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form and Copyright License Agreement.

No academic misconduct was found in the CrossCheck detection and Bing search. 4 Supplementary comments: This is an unsolicited manuscript. The study was supported by Natural Science Foundation of Hunan Province. The topic has not previously been published in the WJCC. The corresponding author has not published articles in the BPG.

5 Issues raised:

(1) I found the authors did not provide the approved grant application form(s). Please upload the approved grant application form(s) or funding agency copy of any approval document(s);

Answer: I provided the approved grant application form (Natural Science Foundation of Hunan Province, NO. 2019JJ40435), which was my another funding, but its expenditure supported this study.

(2) I found the authors did not provide the original figures. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor;

Answer: We provide original figure documents PowerPoint, and added "identification, Screening, eligibility and included" label according to PRISMA flow diagram.

(3) I found the authors did not write the "article highlight" section. Please write the "article highlights" section at the end of the main text;

Answer: We added "article highlight" section, and the same time, we simplified the section of previous conclusion at the end of main text.

(4) the author should number the references in Arabic numerals according to the citation order in the text. The reference numbers will be superscripted in square brackets at the end of the sentence with the citation content or after the cited author's name, with no spaces.

Answer: We revised references numerals in the text with square brackets, and added two new references^[8,9].