

Dear Reviewers and Editor

RE: Manuscript NO: 61789

Title: Delayed retroperitoneal hemorrhage during extracorporeal membrane oxygenation in COVID-19 patients: Clinical experience and literature review

We would like to thank World Journal of Clinical Cases for giving us the opportunity to revise our manuscript. We thank the Reviewer and Editor for the time and effort spent in reviewing the previous version of the manuscript. We have taken their careful and thoughtful comments into consideration in revising our manuscript. Based on the instructions provided in your letter, we uploaded the file of the revised manuscript. Please find my revisions/corrections in the re-submitted files with all the changes highlighted by using the track changes mode in Word and feel free to contact us for any issue.

Best wishes, Tong Li, MD, Professor,

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## **Replies to Reviewer's Comments:**

### **Reviewer #1:**

The cases were well described and the discussion and conclusion are adequate. However, the authors supposedly included some figures to the manuscript, but I was not able to find them anywhere. Please present the figures in the revised version of the manuscript.

### **Answer:**

Thank you very much for the comments.

Some figures of the manuscript were not uploaded because of my mistake. I am very sorry for that. Now I have uploaded the relevant figures in the manuscript.

Thank you very much for spending your valuable time to contribute to the reviewing process of our article. Thanks a lot for your efforts!

### **Reviewer #2:**

Thank you for the opportunity to review this manuscript. This is a very written manuscript focused on the delayed retroperitoneal hemorrhage during extracorporeal membrane oxygenation in COVID-19 patients. Please, accept my suggestions to strengthen your manuscript. Abstract: -Add a space between "Retroperitoneal hemorrhage" and its abbreviation "RPH", and between "extracorporeal membrane oxygenation" and its abbreviation "ECMO" Keyword: -After "Rehabilitation", please replace the comma "," with a full stop "." Background: -In the second line, you mentioned "ARDS" as abbreviation without earlier mentioning the original term. I assume it is "Acute respiratory distress syndrome" -Add references to those sentences "However, as an important salvage therapy, it is hard to perform and maintain ECMO. One of the challenges for ECMO management is to achieve and maintain proper anticoagulation. In clinical practices, some factors, including anticoagulation therapy and thrombocytopenia, can lead to bleeding complications" -Add a reference to this sentence "Currently, COVID-19 is spreading worldwide, with mortality rate as high as 10% in some countries" -Add a space between "retroperitoneal hemorrhage" and its abbreviation "RPH" Discussion: -Add a reference to this sentence "Subsequent studies have observed a high incidence of

pulmonary congestion with microvascular thrombosis, and vascular occlusion events (e.g. limb ischemia, stroke)”

**Answer:**

Thank you very much for the comments.

1. Abstract: -Add a space between “Retroperitoneal hemorrhage” and its abbreviation “RPH”, and between “extracorporeal membrane oxygenation” and its abbreviation “ECMO”

**Revise:** I have revised the article based on your suggestions.

2. Keyword: -After “Rehabilitation”, please replace the comma “,” with a full stop “.”

**Revise:** I have revised the article based on your suggestions.

3. Background: -In the second line, you mentioned “ARDS” as abbreviation without earlier mentioning the original term. I assume it is “Acute respiratory distress syndrome”

**Revise:** I have revised the article based on your suggestions.

4. Background: -Add references to those sentences “However, as an important salvage therapy, it is hard to perform and maintain ECMO. One of the challenges for ECMO management is to achieve and maintain proper anticoagulation. In clinical practices, some factors, including anticoagulation therapy and thrombocytopenia, can lead to bleeding complications”

**Revise:** Add references“ Combes A, Hajage D, Capellier G, Demoule A, Lavoué S, Guervilly C, Da Silva D, Zafrani L, Tirot P, Veber B, Maury E, Levy B, Cohen Y, Richard C, Kalfon P, Bouadma L, Mehdaoui H, Beduneau G, Lebreton G, Brochard L, Ferguson ND, Fan E, Slutsky AS, Brodie D, Mercat A; EOLIA Trial Group, REVA, and ECMONet. Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation for Severe Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome. N Engl J Med. 24;378(21):1965-1975. PMID: 29791822. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1800385.”

5. Background: -Add a reference to this sentence “Currently, COVID-19 is spreading worldwide, with mortality rate as high as 10% in some countries” -Add

a space between “retroperitoneal hemorrhage” and its abbreviation “RPH”

**Revise:** Add references “Grasselli G, Greco M, Zanella A, Albano G, Antonelli M, Bellani G, Bonanomi E, Cabrini L, Carlesso E, Castelli G, Cattaneo S, Cereda D, Colombo S, Coluccello A, Crescini G, Forastieri Molinari A, Foti G, Fumagalli R, Iotti GA, Langer T, Latronico N, Lorini FL, Mojoli F, Natalini G, Pessina CM, Ranieri VM, Rech R, Scudeller L, Rosano A, Storti E, Thompson BT, Tirani M, Villani PG, Pesenti A, Cecconi M; COVID-19 Lombardy ICU Network. Risk Factors Associated With Mortality Among Patients With COVID-19 in Intensive Care Units in Lombardy, Italy. *JAMA Intern Med.* 2020 Oct 1;180(10):1345-1355. PMID: 32667669. DOI: 10.1001/jamainternmed.2020.3539.”

6. Discussion: -Add a reference to this sentence “Subsequent studies have observed a high incidence of pulmonary congestion with microvascular thrombosis, and vascular occlusion events (e.g. limb ischemia, stroke)”

**Revise:** Add references “Al-Samkari H, Karp Leaf RS, Dzik WH, Carlson JCT, Fogerty AE, Waheed A, Goodarzi K, Bendapudi PK, Bornikova L, Gupta S, Leaf DE, Kuter DJ, Rosovsky RP. COVID-19 and coagulation: bleeding and thrombotic manifestations of SARS-CoV-2 infection. *Blood.* 2020 Jul 23;136(4):489-500. PMID: 32492712. DOI: 10.1182/blood.2020006520.”

#### **Replies to Science Editor’s Comments:**

1. We provide the author contributions in the first page.
2. The picture has been uploaded in powerpoint format.
3. All references have been re-uploaded as required.
4. The manuscript has been rewritten in accordance with the Guidelines for Manuscript Preparation.
5. We revised the grammar of the article again.