

Dear Lian-Sheng Ma,

Thanks for your letter. The letter of answering reviewers as follows.

1 Reviewer #1:

Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Accept (High priority)

Specific Comments to Authors: This topic and data analysis are very interesting in management of covid-19.

**Response:** Thank you very much for reviewing the manuscript, and thanks for your approval of this research.

## **2 EDITORIAL OFFICE'S COMMENTS**

Authors must revise the manuscript according to the Editorial Office's comments and suggestions, which are listed below:

### **Science editor:**

1 Scientific quality: The manuscript describes a retrospective cohort study of the effectiveness of adjunctive corticosteroid therapy in patients with severe COVID-19. The topic is within the scope of the WJCC. (1) Classification: Grade B; (2) Summary of the Peer-Review Report: This topic and data analysis are very interesting in management of covid-19; and (3) Format: There are 4 tables and 1 figure. A total of 39 references are cited, including 23 references published in the last 3 years. There are no self-citations. 2 Language evaluation: Classification: Grade B. A language editing certificate issued by AJE was provided.

**Response:** Thank you very much for reviewing the manuscript, and thanks for your approval of this research.

3 Academic norms and rules: The authors provided the Biostatistics Review Certificate, and the Institutional Review Board Approval Form. The written informed consent was not provided. No academic misconduct was found in the Bing search.

**Response:** Thank you point it out. We will upload the written informed consent in manuscript submission system.

4 Supplementary comments: This is an unsolicited manuscript. The study was supported by Chongqing Special Research Project for Novel Coronavirus Pneumonia Prevention and Control, Emergency Research Project of COVID-19 of Chongqing Health Commission. The topic has not previously been published in the WJCC.

5 Issues raised:

(1) 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);

**Response:** Thanks for pointing it out. We will upload the approved grant funding agency copy of approval document in manuscript submission system.

(2) The authors did not provide original pictures. 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;

**Response:** Thanks for pointing it out. We will upload the original figures using PowerPoint in manuscript submission system.

(3) PMID and DOI numbers are missing in the reference list. Please provide the PubMed numbers and DOI citation numbers to the reference list and list all authors of the references. Please revise throughout;

**Response:** Thank you point it out. We have revised the reference style.

(4) The “Article Highlights” section is missing. Please add the “Article Highlights” section at the end of the main text.

**Response:** Thank you point it out. We have added the “Article Highlights” section at the end of the main text.

6 Recommendation: Conditional acceptance.

**Company editor-in-chief:** I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of Clinical Cases, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted. I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-Review Report, Editorial Office's comments and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors.

**Response:** Thank you very much for reviewing the manuscript, and thanks for your approval of this research.

Best regards,

Bin Xiong AND An Zhang