

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery

Manuscript NO: 66399

Title: Impact of COVID-19 on the Presentation, Management, and Outcomes of Acute Care Surgery for Gallbladder Disease and Acute Appendicitis

Reviewer's code: 05467628

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MBBS

Professional title: Doctor, Research Fellow

Reviewer's Country/Territory: India

Author's Country/Territory: United States

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Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

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Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an interesting manuscript reporting on how cases of cholecystitis and appendicitis had a different clinical profile during the COVID-19 pandemic due to multiple reasons. Some changes are required before the manuscript becomes ready for publication. Given below are my comments in no particular order. 1. Authors have wrongly uploaded the strobe statement PDF. They are required to upload a filled STROBE checklist, which has not been done. 2. Kindly provide the table made in the docx file itself. Image/screenshot of table should not be uploaded. 3. In the abstract, the results section must include N in each group, which is currently missing. 4. Discussion needs a significant expansion. Authors have completely missed out on incorporating the various studies that have been published in the last 6 months with regards to COVID-19 and surgery. Please discuss the COVIDSurg publications, the COVIDSurg-Week publications, the CHOLECOVID Study, and many other studies discussing appendicitis/appendectomy during COVID-19. 5. Some graphical representation would be valuable. 6. Authors have referenced papers that came out very early during the COVID-19 pandemic. Much has come later, and this would be useful to be referenced.