

Date: 19-Nov-21

Dear reviewers,

Thank you for your feedback on my manuscript. I have updated the manuscript as per your comments. Also, according to editorial feedback, a reference published in the World Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology is now included in the revised manuscript. Additionally, some of the sentences got amended to ensure clarity.

Following are responses to your comments:

Reviewer #1:

Scientific Quality: Grade C (Good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Accept (General priority)

Specific Comments to Authors: This is a letter to the editor about the challenges of self-monitoring blood glucose in patients with gestational diabetes mellitus during the COVID-19 era in low- and middle-income countries. The letter is relevant and well contextualized.

AUTHOR'S REPLY:

Thank you for your feedback.

Reviewer #2:

Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Accept (General priority)

Specific Comments to Authors: This letter by Saha et al. highlights the challenges of self-monitoring of blood glucose in gestational diabetes during the COVID-19 pandemic in low- and middle-income nations. I think that the letter is interesting and raises awareness about another important healthcare challenge during the pandemic. I recommend to add that screening of mental status should be implemented as standard of care during the pandemic in this susceptible population.

AUTHOR'S REPLY:

Thank you for your feedback. As per your suggestion, the manuscript has been amended. I am quoting it here from the revised manuscript for your reference- 'Finally, psychological stress and mental health conditions due to the pandemic like the death of close ones, COVID-19-related mobility restrictions, and financial crisis also require scrutiny. According to an online survey, a substantial proportion of pregnant females presented with some mental state disorder (nearly 37%) and increased stress levels (about 46%).¹³ Therefore, it's crucial to review the possibility of integrating mental health screening with antenatal care during the COVID-19 pandemic. The HCPs providing prenatal services may require additional training to perform such screening.'

Thank you.