

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Critical Care Medicine*

Manuscript NO: 72106

Title: Association of latitude and altitude with adverse outcomes in patients with COVID-19: The VIRUS registry

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05229914

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Chairman, Chief Doctor, Director

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Thailand

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2021-10-04

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-10-05 06:03

Reviewer performed review: 2021-10-05 07:53

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No



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Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [<input type="checkbox"/>] Anonymous [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [<input type="checkbox"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

please see comments in text and in attached file.

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Manuscript NO: 72106

Title: Association of latitude and altitude with adverse outcomes in patients with COVID-19: The VIRUS registry

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 06109990

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MBChB, N/A

Professional title: Academic Research, Full Professor, Senior Editor, Surgeon

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Iraq

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2021-10-04

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-11-05 06:00

Reviewer performed review: 2021-11-05 17:32

Review time: 11 Hours

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 type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" 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="radio"/>] Anonymous [<input type="radio"/>] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [<input type="radio"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] No
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dear Authors, Thank you so much for conducting this study entitled " The Association of Latitude and Altitude with Adverse Outcomes in Patients with Coronavirus Disease 2019: The VIRUS Registry " for possible publication in the esteemed journal "World Journal of Critical Care Medicine". The manuscript describes the association of latitude and altitude with 28-day mortality and the hospital length of stay in hospitalized COVID-19 patients on international base. The study needs a minor revision as below to improve the presentation of the article. Specific Comments To Authors 1. The beginning of the paragraphs needs to be unified. Besides, adjustment of the manuscript writing is necessary. 2. Abstract: "(49-74)" should be rewritten as follows "(the age ranged from 49-74 year)" 3. Materials and methods section: It is better to replace the word "sex" by "gender". 4. I see these sentences "Institutions reporting fewer than 65% of patients with hospital discharge status were omitted as non-participating because they were unlikely to represent a realistic distribution of outcomes. After the application of this rule, 143 participating hospitals in 21 countries were found to be eligible for inclusion". Should be moved and united with the inclusion and exclusion criteria. 5. It is better to write this abbreviation "m.a.s.l." as "MASL" 6. What you mean by " S.Figure, S.Table "?. Please clarify or numbering them similar to other figures and tables. 7. These sentences were repeated "For Mortality, Odds Ratio (OR) are displayed per 10 degrees of latitude and 250 meters of altitude. For Hospital-free days, the estimate is the expected difference in mean days, similarly displayed per 10 degrees of latitude and 250 meters of altitude. Findings were adjusted for age, gender, race, body mass index, number of days with symptoms prior to admission, symptom groups, timing of admission, and

comorbidities", in the materials and methods section and just below Table 2. 8. There is no mention of the factor "body mass index" in Table 1, despite, you mentioned it in the materials and methods section. 9. Discussion: "report" in the first paragraph needs to change to "reported". 10. I don't see a discussion on all the studied socio-clinical factors and their relationship to the outcome of the patients with COVID-19. 11. Supplementary table: a. Please rewrite it as " Supplementary Table: Distribution of subjects to the countries" b. It is better to add two columns, the Latitude and Altitude, to give an overview of these factors according to the mentioned countries. 12. SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURE, please rewrite it as "Supplementary Figure: Flowchart of included patients."

RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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Reviewer's Country/Territory: Thailand

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2021-10-04

Reviewer chosen by: Li-Li Wang

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-01-06 05:13

Reviewer performed review: 2022-01-06 14:59

Review time: 9 Hours

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: <input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous



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statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Thank you for considering the comments on your interesting work. Some punctuation corrections provided in the file.