

Management of Cancer Patients during the COVID-19 Pandemic- A Comprehensive Review

Response to the Reviewers

Reviewer 1

The authors provided an overview of the available literature on the management of various soft tissue and hematological malignancies. They also assessed the management guidelines for hospitalized and non-hospitalized cancer patients. Overall the manuscript is well written; the literature search is also adequately documented. Major remarks Introduction

1) Please amend as "...cancer may be amenable to some delay in treatment"

Response: Thanks for the review. The correction was made as requested.

2) I cannot understand the expression "...deferment of intervention", please explain or rephrase.

Response: The author further elaborated in the text the deferment of intervention after the pandemic.

3) "managing cancer patients during the COVID-19 pandemic" does not seem to me like other keywords or MESH terms. Please explain if this search using a full quotation string was as accurate as a search using MESH terms.

Response: the keywords "managing cancer patients during the COVID-19 pandemic" were accurate in reproducing the relevant articles for the study using PubMed database

4) The authors stated that "A total of 71 articles were retrieved after using free full-text filter in the PubMed database". Did you really mean that only papers with free full text were selected? In other words, you excluded articles that were available only by subscription or pay per article? If this was the case, I am afraid that a major selection bias was present.

Response: I acknowledge this observation, but the authors declare no external funding source for the manuscript as the time frame for submission was short.

5) Please amend as : "were screened for eligibility".

Response: The correction was made as requested

6) Figure 1 should be deleted as it is unnecessary

Response: Figure 1 is a screenshot evidence of the methodology as PubMed was the only database selected.

Reviewer 2

Firstly, authors have not recognized the COVID19 and SARS-CoV-2 are the two definition, though they have the tight relation. Maybe this is just a confusion and will not affect the scientific sense of this review, but it reflects the non-rigorousness. The selection of the literature, we can see, is not complete, too much references related to SARS-CoV-2 with cancers in any other languages are deficient. The English writing is not so good, especially the organization of manuscript structure is loosly and stackedly. At last, reference style are too confused, without an uniformness.

Response: Thanks for the review. The authors are aware that COVID-19 is the disease and SARS-CoV-2 is the virus which have been used appropriately throughout the text. English language has been edited. The references are displayed using the Vancouver referencing style. Most of the article in the reference were published online ahead of print.

Reviewer 3.

The authors tried to 'synthesize the available literature and provide recommendations on the management of various soft tissue and hematological malignancies. In addition, specific Recommendation for specific site would be helpful for clinical practice. The cancer treatment based on the benefits and risk of intervention should carefully considered. I would like to congratulate the authors on their work, which help us to further recognize the available message concerning the management of cancer patients during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Response: Thanks for the review. The COVID-19 pandemic is evolving, and various countries and health institution modify their recommendations based on the disease burden and available resources.