

Dear Editor and Reviewers,

Thank you for your kind letter on February 9 and for the reviewers' comments concerning our manuscript entitled "COVID-19 and the digestive system: a comprehensive review" (Manuscript No: 62757). Those comments are all valuable and very helpful for improving our paper. We have studied comments carefully and have made correction which we hope meet with approval. The revised portions are marked in red in the paper.

Here below is our point-by-point responses to the issues raised in the peer-review report(s).

**Reviewers' comments:**

Reviewer #1:

Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Accept (High priority)

Specific Comments to Authors: A nice review timely well written. Priority of acceptance.

Response: Thank you for your positive comments.

Reviewer #2:

Scientific Quality: Grade C (Good)

Language Quality: Grade A (Priority publishing)

Conclusion: Minor revision

Specific Comments to Authors: You can discuss the long term outcome of some Covid-19 related gastro-intestinal disease, mainly when interesting liver and pancreas. There are specific signs, endoscopic or radiological, typical of Covid gastroenterological disease? I remember that intestinal vascular disease are common in Covid-19 patients: you can remark this.

1. You can discuss the long term outcome of some Covid-19 related gastro-intestinal disease, mainly when interesting liver and pancreas.

Response: We have discussed that according to the suggestion, which was added to Page 10-12 in the revised manuscript with all changes clearly marked in red (References 46, 47, 48, 49 and 63).

2. There are specific signs, endoscopic or radiological, typical of Covid gastroenterological disease?

Response: We have added a short discussion on specific signs of COVID-19 gastroenterological disease, which were added to Page 7 (marked in red):

“Based on existing literature and reports, GI manifestations of SARS-CoV-2 are still emerging and variant, and there are no specific symptoms and signs in COVID-19 patients.”

On specific endoscopic or radiological of COVID-19 gastroenterological disease, a brief description of “ABDOMINAL IMAGING FINDINGS IN COVID-19 PATIENTS” was added to Page 14-16, which was marked in red in the revised manuscript (References 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83 and 84).

3. I remember that intestinal vascular disease are common in Covid-19 patients: you can remark this.

Response: We have added a remark on that in the revised manuscript, which was added to Page 12-13 with all changes clearly marked in red (References 68, 69 and 70).

#### **Editorial office's comments:**

Science editor: 1 Scientific quality: The manuscript describes a review of the COVID-19 and the digestive system. The topic is within the scope of the WJG. (1) Classification: Grade B and Grade C; (2) Summary of the Peer-Review Report: This is a nice review timely well written. The authors can discuss the long-term outcome of some Covid-19 related gastro-intestinal disease, mainly when interesting liver and pancreas. The

questions raised by the reviewers should be answered; and (3) Format: There are no tables and figures. A total of 122 references are cited, including 117 references published in the last 3 years. There are no self-citations. 2 Language evaluation: Classification: Grade A and Grade B. A language editing certificate issued by Editorbar was provided. 3 Academic norms and rules: No academic misconduct was found in the Bing search. 4 Supplementary comments: This is an invited manuscript. No financial support was obtained for the study. The topic has not previously been published in the WJG. 5 Issues raised: (1) Authors should always cite references that are relevant to their study. Please check and remove any references that not relevant to this study; and (2) Please add table/figure to this review. 6 Recommendation: Conditional acceptance.

Response: We have studied these comments carefully and tried our best to revise the manuscript accordingly. We have also checked references that should be relevant to our study, and remove any references that not relevant to this study. A figure on the mechanisms of gastrointestinal injuries induced by SARS-CoV-2 virus has been added to the revised manuscript according to the suggestion(Page 40, Figure 1).

Company editor-in-chief: I recommend the manuscript to be published in the World Journal of Clinical Cases. Before final acceptance, the author(s) must add a table/figure to the manuscript.

Response: Thank you for recommending our manuscript to be published in the World Journal of Clinical Cases. We have added a figure on the mechanisms of gastrointestinal injuries induced by SARS-CoV-2 virus to the revised manuscript according to the suggestion(Page 40, Figure 1).

Thank the reviewers and the editors again for the effort in shaping our manuscript.

Best Regards

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