

Reply to reviewers:

We would like to thank you for taking your time to review our manuscript.

Comments:

This is a retrospective data of 130 patients and a significant large amount of data is lost due to nature/ type of the study. It is interesting to note a relationship between elevated liver enzymes at presentation and COVID-19 related mortality. I think we need to compare liver enzymes elevation with some other inflammatory markers which have more or less established relationship with mortality in COVID patients such as LDH, CRP A linear correlation between these markers and deranged liver enzymes with further strengthen the observation presented in this study.

Reply from the authors:

We acknowledge the reviewer's comments and appreciate his input. Although this was not our primary or secondary outcome for this study, the authors did perform a post hoc linear correlation using the Spearman's 2 tailed correlation coefficient for AST/ALT levels and LDH, Lactic Acid and D Dimer. The correlation coefficients were as follows

ALT/LA $r=0.093$

ALT/LDH $r= 0.004$

ALT/D dimer $r= 0.010$

AST/LA $r= 0.111$

AST/LDH $r= 0.00389$

AST/D dimer $r = 0.00461$

Given that the correlations (r) were between -0.02 and $+0.02$, it is likely that the associations were weak or negligible. Further, CRP has not been ordered on admission for the current data set and hence we were unable to analyze the same. We recognize that this may have been an important metric to review and will include it in future studies.

Reply to editor's comments:

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(1) The "Author Contributions" section is missing. Please provide the author contributions

"Author contributions" section has been added to the manuscript.

(2) The authors did not provide original pictures. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor

Authors acknowledge the reviewer's comments and have inculcated the changes as requested.

(3) PMID and DOI numbers are missing in the reference list. Please provide the PubMed numbers and DOI citation numbers to the reference list and list all authors of the references. Please revise throughout (see below)

The PMID, DOI numbers, and all authors have been added to the references wherever possible. The authors would like to note that references 4,5 and 21 are not pubmed publications but are cdc, who and biorxiv citations respectively

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"Article Highlights" section has been added to the manuscript as requested.