

Reviewer response

Dear reviewer,

Thank you for reading and correcting of our manuscript. We are glad to inform you that we have now made the changes you proposed and we hope that our paper will now suitable for publication.

Very good work but still want to share these points:

1. Regarding the word pandemics through the text in many places, I advice to make sure of it as we are talking about one pandemic in definition.

Dear reviewer, we appreciate your comment. It has now been resolved.

2. Second, Singh et al. paper on page 10 that attributed findings to age being older, is it by chance? Did you check that as UC is also seen in young, we need to make sure about the representative nature of the research.

Dear reviewer, we appreciate your comment. Singh et al. unfortunately did not provide the age-adjusted analysis to exclude age as a cause of discrepancy between CD and UC in terms of mortality. Furthermore, they also didn't provide average age between the subgroups. However, as authors didn't go in further details with regard to this matter, we believe that they extrapolated this hypothesis merely based on the average age difference between the subgroups. For all these reasons, we were not able to estimate the representative nature of the research and thus, we added that as a possible limitation of the hypothesis presented by Singh et al in the part in which it is discussed in the text.

3. Third, regarding the references... Be sure not to conflict with the guidelines as too many authos are written name by name (long list with long lists)

Dear reviewer, we appreciate your comment. We have edited references using reference analyzer provided by BPG.

Science editor response

Dear Science Editor,

Thank you for reading and correcting of our manuscript, we hope that it will now be suitable for publication in your respected journal.

Issues raised:

(1) 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.

Dear editor, thank you for your comment. We cannot upload figures in ppt, as there is no such option in the user interface of the f6 software. In which way should we upload it, via email or will you provide us with some other method?

(2) Please obtain permission for the use of picture(s).

Dear editor, thank you for your comment. We hereby declare that both figure and table were are original and created by the first author of this manuscript, Marko Kumric.