



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Clinical Cases

**Manuscript NO:** 63789

**Title:** What paradigm shifts occurred in the management of acute diverticulitis during the COVID-19 pandemic? A scoping review

**Reviewer's code:** 02549476

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor, Surgeon

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Germany

**Author's Country/Territory:** Italy

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-02-02

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jin-Lei Wang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-02-09 20:25

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-02-27 12:06

**Review time:** 17 Days and 15 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<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
<b>Conclusion</b>	<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
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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## **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The authors deal with a very important issue, the epidemiology and treatment of acute colonic diverticulitis during the SARS-CoV2 pandemic. For this scoping review, they searched for different types of studies in the main databases, analyzed a total of 21 papers and found a relevant decrease of admissions for acute diverticulitis and a shift toward predominantly conservative treatment. Despite the important aspects of this analysis, I would recommend some corrections. Please specify the start time of the search period. Please provide a definition for uncomplicated diverticulitis. Two of the so called "cross sectional studies" are no original articles but "Correspondence" and "Research letter" (Chung et al., Guadalajara et al.). In one of these papers, there is no comparison period (Chung et al.). I would therefore recommend that these two papers should be removed from the analysis. Based on the data, I cannot support the conclusion that most of the decline in admissions is due to the decline in uncomplicated cases. Please explain in more detail. In the file "63789-Biostatistics Review Certificate.pdf", I can only find the "ICMJE Form for Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest". In the file "63789-Non-Native Speakers of English Editing Certificate.pdf", I can only find the trial flow diagram.