

Response to reviewer

We appreciate the reviewer's comments and suggestions, which helped improve our manuscript. Please find below our reply. We are confident that our manuscript has been substantially improved and would be greatly thankful if you can consider it now for publication.

1. This analysis just included the GDP data of the second quarter (Q2) 2020, please explain why the authors choose the Q2 only.

RESPONSE: At the time of our manuscript preparation (October 2nd, 2020), the latest data available for global GDP was of Q2. We understand that the situation surrounding the COVID pandemic is dynamically changing, so have referred this as a limitation as follows. "Furthermore, the COVID-19 pandemic is still ongoing, so the mortality and economic damage are dynamically changing...."

2. The author mentioned about "China, which took aggressive measures to halt the spread and kept the mortality low at 3/million population was the only country that had a positive GDP growth.", which should be interpreted with caution. Because the accuracy of the Covid-19-related mortality in China seems to be under-estimated and they did not take so-called "aggressive approaches" to prevent the distribution of Covid-19 at the beginning. Therefore, this is one of the reasons for explaining why China is the only country that had a positive GDP growth.

RESPONSE: We agree that there are different criteria in reporting methods among countries. We also agree that it took some time for China to take action to prevent the spread of infection outside of Wuhan/China. We referred to these limitations as "It should also be noted that some countries have different criteria when reporting deaths due to COVID-19 and possibility of underreporting of cases/deaths have also been mentioned." We also changed the aforementioned sentence to "China, which took aggressive measures after experiencing the outbreak in Wuhan".

3. Although this study has some fundamental issues must be clarified, the impacts of Covid-19 pandemic on economic, medical treatments, etc. have to be investigated with a long-term follow-up.

RESPONSE: Thank you for your positive comments.