

## Point-by-point response

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Editor-in-Chief

World Journal of Virology (WJV, World J Virol)

Dear Dr Chen,

Thank you for letting us revise our manuscript “New-onset diabetes in COVID-19 and clinical outcomes: a systematic review and meta-analysis” for consideration for publication as a review at your prestigious journal, World Journal of Virology (WJV, World J Virol). Here we have mentioned point-point reply to comments provided.

Reviewer #1:

**Scientific Quality:** Grade C (Good)

**Language Quality:** Grade B (Minor language polishing)

**Conclusion:** Major revision

**Specific Comments to Authors:** The idea of your work is very good, but many comments were written in the main manuscript for your consideration, Please you need to increase your sample size to get more significant results, and the reference range of the blood sugar under normal, impaired conditions and in DM also should be revised

**Reply:** Thank you for showing interest and going through our paper. We have amended all those comments which were possible to edit. As our study is meta-analysis based on published literature in the provided time frame so we could not increase the sample size. In different studies slight variation in the reference range was observed, which has been mentioned in table.

**Specific comments in manuscript**

1. Please Abbreviations should be defined at 1<sup>st</sup> mentioning

**Reply: Thank you for the comment. Amended as appropriate throughout the manuscript**

2. What do you mean by CI and I<sup>2</sup>?

**Reply: Amended as appropriate throughout the manuscript. It is Confidence interval and I-squared for heterogeneity assessment**

3. I think no need to repeat it again, better to include: non-diabetic: new-onset

**Reply: Amended as appropriate throughout the manuscript**

4. As you wrote before: We conducted this meta-analysis with the objective to analyze the rate of new onset diabetes in COVID-19 patients and compare the clinical outcomes of new onset diabetes, pre-existing diabetes, hyperglycemic, and non-diabetes among COVID-19 patients.

So these categories (pre-existing diabetes, hyperglycemic, and non-diabetes COVID-19 patients) should be included also in the inclusion criterion.

**Reply: Amended as appropriate**

5. Please write in details the laboratory results that will be used to assess D.M.

**Reply: As our study is meta-analysis based on published literature in the provided time frame so we could not increase the sample size. In different studies slight variation in the reference range was observed, which has been mentioned in table.**

6. The title of the table should be before the table not below as you wrote here.

**Reply: Amended as appropriate**

7. More details need to be written here.

- Participants with  $5.7\% \leq \text{HbA1c} \leq 6.4\%$  were classified as pre-diabetic (100 mg/dL  $\leq$  FBG  $\leq$  125 mg/dL or 140 mg/dL  $\leq$  PBG  $\leq$  200 mg/dL)
- those with  $\text{HbA1c} \geq 6.5\%$  were classified as diabetic
- Diabetes was defined as a FBG > 125 mg/dL or PBG > 200mg/dL.

So please revise your criteria. What you already used was wrong

**Reply: As our study is meta-analysis based on published literature in the provided time frame so we could not increase the sample size. In different studies slight variation in the reference range was observed, which has been mentioned in table.**

8. This is not a figure it seems like a table, please modify it

**Reply: Those forest plots were derived from CMA software and those were figures.**

9. Other minor comments and corrections suggested

**Reply: Checked and approved as appropriate**

#### **4 LANGUAGE QUALITY**

Please resolve all language issues in the manuscript based on the peer review report. Please be sure to have a native-English speaker edit the manuscript for grammar, sentence structure, word usage, spelling, capitalization, punctuation, format, and general readability, so that the manuscript's language will meet our direct publishing needs.

**Reply: Edited and revised**

#### **5 EDITORIAL OFFICE'S COMMENTS**

Authors must revise the manuscript according to the Editorial Office's comments and suggestions, which are listed below:

**(1) *Science editor:*** 1 Scientific quality: The manuscript describes a meta-analysis of the new-onset diabetes in COVID-19 and clinical outcomes. The topic is within the scope of the WJV. (1) Classification: Grade C; (2) Summary of the Peer-Review Report: The idea of your work is very good. The questions raised by the reviewers should be answered; (3) Format: There are 5 tables and 6 figures; (4) References: A total of 26 references are cited, including 25 references published in the last 3 years; (5) Self-cited references: There is 1 self-cited reference. The self-referencing rates should be less than 10%. Please keep the reasonable self-citations (i.e. those that are most closely related to the topic of the manuscript) and remove all other improper self-citations. If the authors fail to address the critical issue of self-citation, the editing process of this manuscript will be terminated; and (6) References recommendations: The authors have the right to refuse to cite

improper references recommended by the peer reviewer(s), especially references published by the peer reviewer(s) him/herself (themselves). If the authors find the peer reviewer(s) request for the authors to cite improper references published by him/herself (themselves), please send the peer reviewer's ID number to [editorialoffice@wjgnet.com](mailto:editorialoffice@wjgnet.com). The Editorial Office will close and remove the peer reviewer from the F6Publishing system immediately. 2 Language evaluation: Classification: Grade B. 3 Academic norms and rules: The authors provided the Biostatistics Review Certificate. No academic misconduct was found in the Bing search. 4 Supplementary comments: This is an unsolicited manuscript. No financial support was obtained for the study. The topic has not previously been published in the WJV. 5 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; (2) 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; and (3) The "Article Highlights" section is missing. Please add the "Article Highlights" section at the end of the main text. 6 Recommendation: Conditional acceptance.

**Reply:** Those figures were derived from CMA software. We arranged the figures using PowerPoint. PMID and DOI numbers, and Highlights added.

**(2) Company editor-in-chief:** I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, the full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of Virology, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted. I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-Review Report, Editorial Office's comments and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors. However, the quality of the English language of the manuscript does not meet the requirements of the journal. Before final acceptance, the author(s) must provide the English Language Certificate issued by a professional English language editing company. Please visit the following website for the professional English language editing companies we recommend: <https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/240>.

**Reply: We have edited and revised our manuscript substantially, as per requirement**