

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Critical Care Medicine

Manuscript NO: 64665

Title: Role of proning and positive end-expiratory pressure in COVID-19

Reviewer's code: 05840382

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Uganda

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2021-02-21

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-02-24 02:35

Reviewer performed review: 2021-03-03 10:32

Review time: 7 Days and 7 Hours

Scientific quality	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<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
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	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

Manuscript NO: 64665 Review Report Thank you for the opportunity to review manuscript No: 64665, titled "Role of Proning and PEEP in COVID-19". Overall, the manuscript is well written, and provides interesting information about the role of positive end-expiratory pressure (PEEP) and proning in COVID-19 patients. Specific comments follow, below: 1) Abstract: The abstract has a general focus, and if read as a standalone section, its content is not the exact representation of the manuscript. Within the limited word count, the authors could reduce on the general information and include important details such as the exact focus of the article, findings, and the authors' conclusions. In other words, they should ensure that from the abstract the readers are in position to get a clear picture of the content of the manuscript, including a take-home message about the role of proning and PEEP in COVID-19. 2) COVID-19 pathophysiology subsection: Immediately after the description of the three phases of diffuse alveolar damage, the authors suddenly present the definition of acute fibrinous and organizing pneumonia (AFOP), which is somewhat confusing to a reader, before getting to the sentence that follows and links it to DAD. I suggest that a transition sentence linking AFOP to DAD is added before the description of AFOP. 3) The authors could also make a clear distinction between the lung injuries (i.e. DAD, AFOP, and OP) since they may occur in isolation or concurrently. They could indicate whether or not these lung injuries are all a consequence of COVID-19, how comorbid AFOP and/or OP might be linked to the described phases of DAD, the associated prognostic implications, and so on. 4) The authors should proofread and correct some typos such as starting a sentence with a small letter, and writing et al. as et. al. 5) The authors should also indicate some of the major limitations of the review, especially the still scanty literature on the role of PEEP and proning in COVID-19 patients, and limited number of cases. Overall Comment Overall, the manuscript is well written and has a



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potential for contributing to science, and care of COVID-19 patients, if revised and accepted for publication.