

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery*

**Manuscript NO:** 65817

**Title:** Global research production pertaining to gastrointestinal involvement in COVID-19: A bibliometric and visualised study

**Provenance and peer review:** Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05382654

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Associate Chief Physician, Deputy Director

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-03-16

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-03-16 14:35

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-03-19 12:51

**Review time:** 2 Days and 22 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: [ <input checked="" type="radio"/> ] Anonymous [ <input type="radio"/> ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ <input type="radio"/> ] Yes [ <input checked="" type="radio"/> ] No
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## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) has become a global pandemic. Studies showed that COVID-19 affected not only the respiratory system but also the digestive system. This manuscript mainly analyzed the global COVID-19 and GI-related literature in the Scopus database during 2020, including country and institution distribution, published journals, citations, and terms of published studies, which could present the research hotspots, development trends in COVID-19 and GI-related research, and provide a reference for research cooperation. However, below some suggestions may be helpful for shaping this manuscript.

- In page 1, this manuscript should be submitted to “World Journal of Gastroenterology”, not “World Journal of Gastrointestinal”. In page 3, “...implications for the gastroenterologist COVID-19...” should be changed to “...implications of COVID-19 for the gastroenterologist...”. In addition, “...GI symptoms with COVID-19 and treatments...” should be changed to “...GI symptoms and treatments in COVID-19...”. In page 4, “...extreme acute respiratory syndrome (SARS-CoV-2)...” should be changed to “...severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2)...”. In addition, “...Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS)...” should be changed to “...acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS)...”. In page 7, “...this studies' aim...” should be changed to “...the aim of this study...”. “The top three countries...” should be changed to “The top four countries...”. In page 8, “...the United Kingdome” should be changed to “...the United Kingdom”. In page 10, “Therefore far, ...” should be changed to “So far, ...”. In page 11, please correct the syntax and grammatical errors carefully in the 2nd paragraph. In page 12, Germany is one of the top 6 countries of research on COVID-19 and GI-related publications.

However, Germany can't be seen in Figure 1. 2. In page 6, to avoid losing gastrointestinal publications concerning COVID-19, "SARS-CoV 2" OR "Novel Coronavirus" should be added, and "OR COVID19" should be deleted because of repeatability in the specific search terms related to COVID-19. Meanwhile, "OR stomach OR duodenal OR colon OR colorectal anorectum" or more GI associated words should be added in the specific search terms related to GI. 3. It is suggested that the part of "RESULTS" and "DISCUSSION" could be described with several subheadings, such as "Country and institution distribution of COVID-19 and GI-related publications". 4. In all figures and tables, all abbreviations should be given in full text according to the journal's requirements. 5. In reference 5, available from:?, and the first author should be should be bolded. In reference 57, pages?. In reference 58, volume and page numbers are 71: 2207-2210? Please check other references including content and format carefully according to the journal's requirements. 6. In table 4, the 7th articles, "Tian" should be changed to "Tian et al". Additionally, all "et al" should be italic. Throughout the text, please correct the syntax, tense and grammatical errors carefully. Other suggestions have been listed in the uploaded revised version.

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**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 03889126

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-03-16

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-03-18 14:07

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-03-25 03:03

**Review time:** 6 Days and 12 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 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
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: ☒ Anonymous ☐ OnymousConflicts-of-Interest: ☐ Yes ☒ No**SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

This bibliometric analysis provides the concise summary of global GI publications related to COVID-19. It is well-written and offers a detailed guide and macroscopic overview of gastrointestinal publications' position in COVID-19 scholarly research evolution and performance during the early stages of the outbreak. There are some advices: 1. I suggest the authors add some contents about the pathogenesis of gastrointestinal disease in COVID-19 in INTRODUCTION part. 2. I suggest the authors list table(s) to summarize the symptoms and population of gastrointestinal diseases to show whether there are differences in different countries and regions.

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**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05842368

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-03-16

**Reviewer chosen by:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-03-29 05:03

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-04-11 08:45

**Review time:** 13 Days and 3 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 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
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**Peer-reviewer  
statements**

Peer-Review: ☒ Anonymous ☐ Onymous

Conflicts-of-Interest: ☐ Yes ☒ No

## **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

This bibliometric analysis provided a clear macroscopic overview of publications in the field of gastrointestinal tract linked to COVID-19. It was meaningful as a summary one year after the pandemic, also as a guide for future study. There are several small problems worth attention. 1. the sentence 'if you limit your search to gastrointestinal involvement in COVID-19 (January 2020 to December 31, 2020)' in the first paragraph of the RESULT part should be modified to be a formal scientific written language, passive tense here may be more appropriate. 2. 'The top three countries by centrality were the United States, China, Italy, and the United Kingdom' in the second paragraph of the RESULT part. Actually you listed four countries. 3. 'is the potential birthplace of current infection outbreaks' in the second paragraph of the DISCUSSION part. There haven't been definite results or conclusion from the virus tracing study, so public publications better not use these controversial descriptions. Besides, if authors could dig deeper of the data, for example, which disease is more studied in the GI tract, et al. the research would be much better. But I think this version has been very good for publication.