

Bergamo 05/05/2021

Dear Editors and Reviewers,

Thank you very much for your appreciation of our original work.

Please find attached the revised version of our manuscript entitled " Intestinal ischemic manifestations of SARS-CoV-2: results from the ABDOCOVID multicentre study" which we are pleased to submit for consideration for publication in *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

The research is not a clinical trial; thus, it does not need registration.

We do hope that you will find the article worthy for publication in *World Journal of Gastroenterology*, both for its scientific merits and the interesting findings.

We confirm that this work is original and that it is submitted only to *World Journal of Gastroenterology*. It will not be submitted elsewhere while under consideration and should it be published; it will not be published elsewhere – either in similar form or verbatim – without permission of the Editors.

Please note that this study did not receive any funding and that none of the authors have any conflict of interest relevant to the study.

This letter is followed by a point by point answer to editors and reviewers comments.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Lorenzo Norsa, MD, PhD

Paediatric Gastroenterology Hepatology and Nutrition, ASST Papa Giovanni XXIII, Bergamo, Italy

**Reviewer #1:**

Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Minor revision

Specific Comments to Authors: The study is well written. However, there are few spelling mistakes and minor grammatical errors. The details of how, the endoscopy was done is not mentioned clearly. How, protection used, disposable kits, what day of presentation, whether it was done by the same gastroenterologist etc. Was endoscopy done for all positive patients or only those patients with GI symptoms or those with radiological evidence.

**Answer Reviewer #1:**

Thank you very much for your precious comments.

English was edited by native English speaker.

Regarding endoscopic procedure a precise section was added to the methodology chapter:

*“Endoscopic procedures were performed only in patients with COVID-19 GI symptoms and concomitant clinical history or radiological findings compatible with suspected colitis. All procedures were performed by expert endoscopist for each centre (AI, LE, FF). All endoscopic procedures on COVID 19 positive patients were organized in a COVID 19 dedicated operating room or in intensive care unit according to patients’ clinical conditions. Appropriate protections were used to perform endoscopic procedure from all the endoscopical team and ventilators used to eventually ventilate COVID 19 patients were sanitize according to internal isolation protocol.”*

**Science editor:**

1 Scientific quality: The manuscript describes an observational study of the intestinal ischemic manifestations of SARS-CoV-2. The topic is within the scope of the WJG.

1.1 Classification: Grade B;

1.2 Summary of the Peer-Review Report: The authors found a well written study. However, there are few spelling mistakes and minor grammatical errors. The questions raised by the reviewer should be answered; and

1.3 Format: There are 2 tables and 4 figures.

1.4 References: A total of 34 references are cited, including 29 references published in the last 3 years;

1.5 Self-cited references: There are 3 self-cited references. The self-referencing rates should be less than 10%. Please keep the reasonable self-citations that are closely related to the topic of the manuscript, and remove 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

1.6 References recommend: The authors have the right to refuse to cite improper references recommended by peer reviewer(s), especially the references published by the peer reviewer(s) themselves. If the authors found the peer reviewer(s) request the authors to cite improper references published by themselves, please send the peer reviewer’s ID number to the 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, the STROBE Statement, and the Institutional Review Board Approval Form. Written informed consent was waived. No academic misconduct was found in the Bing search.

4 Supplementary comments: This is an invited manuscript. No financial support was obtained for the study. The topic has not previously been published in the WJG.

5 Issues raised:

5.1 The authors did not provide the approved grant application form(s). Please upload the approved grant application form(s) or funding agency copy of any approval document(s);

5.2 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;

5.3 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

5.4 The “Article Highlights” section is missing. Please add the “Article Highlights” section at the end of the main text.

6 Recommendation: Conditional acceptance.

**Answer to Science editor:**

Dear science editor thanks for your comments. Please find below point by point answer:

1.5 Self-citation are 3/34 so less than 10%.

5.1 As specified in point 4 no financial support was obtained for this study; thus we do not applied for any grant or funding.

5.2 Original picture were uploaded as requested on a PPT file (66314-images.ppt)

5.3 References were updated as requested with PMID and DOI number.

5.4 The section “Article Highlights” was added as for instructions.

**Company editor-in-chief:**

I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of Gastroenterology, 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.