

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 73265

Title: Endothelial cells and blood vessels are major targets for COVID-19-induced tissue injury and spreading to various organs

Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 06006212

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2021-11-15

Reviewer chosen by: Lian-Sheng Ma

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-11-18 06:25

Reviewer performed review: 2021-11-19 01:25

Review time: 18 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No



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Peer-reviewer statements	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

Thank you very much for letting me contribute to this editorial article. Overall, the article is well organized and concise. Understanding and preventing extrapulmonary manifestation, including VTE, plays a critical role in improving outcomes of COVID-19. The present article stresses the importance of endothelial standpoint in COVID-19 development. Pathophysiological investigation and clinical trials are both essential to advance the knowledge of today. My concerns about this article are that the pathophysiological benefits of the two novel drugs, Molnupiravir and Paxlovid, were unclear. It is remarkable that we can keep the disease progress at bay by oral drugs. However, the endothelial effects of Molnupiravir were a bit vague. In addition, the results of Paxlovid study from Science were a little misleading because the main experiment was in vivo and did not demonstrate substantial efficacy in humankind. Considering the context of endothelial contribution to COVID-19 severity, I believe that the relationship between the two drugs and endothelial cells should be more clarified and emphasized.