

Response to Reviewers

Dear Reviewer,

Thank you for the opportunity to improve our manuscript. We agree with all the comments and we altered the manuscript (highlighted in yellow).

In relation to Reviewer #1:

"1. Describe the procedure of Schirmer test in manuscript."

We agree and have corrected it according to the suggestion (lines 109-115 page 5).

In relation to Reviewer #2:

"1. All the references should be indexed in text before punctuation."

We agree and have corrected it according to the suggestion (along the manuscript).

"2. Introductory part: I find it useful to mention burnout for healthcare workers, including ophthalmologists, in covid time: Dimitriu MCT, Pantea-Stoian A, Smaranda AC, et al. Burnout syndrome in Romanian medical residents in time of the COVID-19 pandemic. Med Hypotheses. 2020 Nov;144:109972. doi: 10.1016/j.mehy.2020.109972."

We agree with this suggestion and have added this reference (line 60-61 page 3, reference 4).

"3. Discussion part: cite another study - Dascalu AM, Tudosie MS, Smarandache CG, Serban D. IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC UPON THE OPHTHALMOLOGICAL CLINICAL PRACTICE. Rom J Leg Med28(1)96-100(2020). DOI:10.4323/rjlm.2020.96."

We agree with this suggestion and put these tables as supplemental data (supplemental tables 1, 2, and 3) (page 7 lines 166-170, reference 18).

"4. Conclusions: the sentence is too general and non-specific. Rewrite the conclusions according to specific results derives from the study."

We agree and have corrected it according to the suggestion (lines 225-232, page 10).

In relation to Editorial Office's comments and suggestions:

"1. The "Author Contributions" section is missing. Please provide the author contributions"

This section is in the declarations (lines 253-258, page 11).

"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"

We provide de original pictures (see the attachments).

"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;"

We agree and have corrected it according to the instruction (see Reference section).

"4. The "Article Highlights" section is missing. Please add the "Article Highlights" section at the end of the main text."

We agree and have corrected it according to the instruction (see article highlight section – lines 397-402, page 17).

With Kind Regards,

Dr. Ana Marta