23 June 2022

Respected Sir/Madam

Reference#: 76816

## Title: SARS-CoV-2 viral load in the upper respiratory tract and the disease severity in COVID-19 patients – a review

I am hereby giving points response to your comments;

## **Reviewer #1**

**Comment #1:** This topic out of trend.

Author answer: Thank you for your comment.

## **Reviewer #2**

**Comment #1:** I highly suggest them to convert it to a meta-analysis if the intention is to answer the research question of interest.

Author answer: I do agree with reviewer for this comment but I could not convert this manuscript to be a systematic review and meta-analysis because this manuscript was designed for mini-review. Comment #2: The title should ideally reflect the study design, I recommend adding word Review in the title. This is helpful for literature search by other authors.

Author answer: I already added "a review" in the title.

**Comment #3**: Authors have presented results of multiple studies with the conclusions made by respective study authors. I believe that for a solid review, authors of the current review should give insights from their own mind also on each study as to how the results are significant and relatable to the current pandemic, what's the importance and clinical relevance of each study? - Formatting needs to be reviewed. After presentation of studies, there is a brief discussion. Wasn't the above information part of discussion? - Conclusion does not accurately justify the whole manuscript. As I recommended above, such a conclusion can be made with a meta-analysis only instead of a general review.

Author answer: Thank you again for the valuable suggestion. If the reviewer noticed about the studies design of all the literatures which were reviewed, all of them are prospective cohorts and retrospective studies no a randomized control trial is found in the PubMed and other data bases.

## Language polishing requirement:

**Comment #1:** Authors are requested to send their revised manuscript to a professional English language editing company or a native English-speaking expert to polish the manuscript further. When the authors submit the subsequent polished manuscript to us, they must provide a new language certificate along with the manuscript.

Author answer: I already submitted the manuscript to be edited by TM editing<sup>©</sup> and already received the English Language Certificate. Best regards,

W Leowattana

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