

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

Manuscript NO: 77664

Title: Comparison of laboratory parameters, clinical symptoms, and clinical outcomes of COVID-19 and influenza in pediatric patients: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05250424

Position: Associate Editor

Academic degree: MBBS, MD, PhD

Professional title: Consultant Physician-Scientist, Intermediate Editor, Senior Postdoctoral Fellow, Senior Researcher

Reviewer's Country/Territory: India

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-05-16

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-05-23 18:41

Reviewer performed review: 2022-05-23 19:39

Review time: 1 Hour

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 Grade E: Do not publish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 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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection

Re-review	[<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] Yes [<input type="checkbox"/>] No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] Anonymous [<input type="checkbox"/>] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [<input type="checkbox"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors have pooled the OR of binary outcomes for clinical symptoms and clinical outcomes in pediatric patients with COVID-19 vs. influenza from 16 studies and meta-analyzed the results. Overall, the work is impressive. However, I have certain queries on the methodologies of this meta-analysis and also a few recommendations to further improve the manuscript. Queries: 1. Why a cut-off of 1954 was chosen in the database? Any special reason for selecting 1954? If yes, do mention it and rationalize the reason- please! 2. Authors say they have done Egger's test when studies number was more than 10. Any specific reason? Is that the rule? Can't we perform Egger's test if the number of pooled studies is less than 10? 3. Since clinical outcomes that is what matters finally, why authors have not applied a Trim and Fill technique when heterogeneity was substantial >75% on all clinical outcomes they looked for? Suggestions: 1. It appears by reading the manuscript that COVID-19 causes higher HB vs. influenza. Please rephrase those statements appropriately. 2. Please remove all random numerals appearing at the bottom of figures 2-6, 12-14. 3. It is not clear from the figure of forest plots which arm belongs to COVID-19 and which arm to influenza. I assume the left of unity belongs to COVID-19 and the right of unity belongs to influenza by your figure legends only but it should be appropriately placed in all the figures as well.

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Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 06144315

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Adjunct Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Egypt

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-05-16

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-06-21 14:45

Reviewer performed review: 2022-07-04 19:06

Review time: 13 Days and 4 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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



**Baishideng
Publishing
Group**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA
Telephone: +1-925-399-1568
E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com
<https://www.wjgnet.com>

**Peer-reviewer
statements**

Peer-Review: ☒ Anonymous ☐ Onymous

Conflicts-of-Interest: ☐ Yes ☒ No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I accepted this manuscript for publication

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Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 06205768

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: BCPS, MSc

Professional title: Chief Pharmacist

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Saudi Arabia

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-05-16

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-06-24 11:56

Reviewer performed review: 2022-07-05 18:58

Review time: 11 Days and 7 Hours

Scientific quality	[<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Grade A: Excellent [<input type="radio"/>] Grade B: Very good [<input type="radio"/>] Grade C: Good [<input type="radio"/>] Grade D: Fair [<input type="radio"/>] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Grade A: Priority publishing [<input type="radio"/>] Grade B: Minor language polishing [<input type="radio"/>] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [<input type="radio"/>] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Accept (High priority) [<input type="radio"/>] Accept (General priority) [<input type="radio"/>] Minor revision [<input type="radio"/>] Major revision [<input type="radio"/>] Rejection
Re-review	[<input type="radio"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] No



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E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com
<https://www.wjgnet.com>

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

Excellent impressive work Organised and clear I have a few comments. For the 16 studies included in the review, two studies with the same author and publication date (Liu 2021) make a little confusing in the figures, especially when one of them got included. In discussion : page 8 line 259, regarding the quality of the studies, according to the table in the supplement, two studies showed good quality(Pokorska-Śpiwak et al. 2021 and Asserri 2021) . In supplementary material table 1: There is a need to standardise all the age to be in years table 2:there is a need for alignment of the cell so that it will be clear for the reader