

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

**Manuscript NO:** 78979

**Title:** Effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on patients with presumed diagnosis of acute appendicitis

**Provenance and peer review:** Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 06254518

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MS

**Professional title:** Associate Professor, Research Associate

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Mexico

**Author's Country/Territory:** Turkey

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-07-25

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-07-26 13:22

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-07-26 15:04

**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 Grade E: Do not publish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 type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	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

In this study, the authors compare two clinical case series of suspected appendicitis before and after the arrival of COVID-19 in Turkey. Suggestions: - Some authors have hypothesized that systemic inflammation secondary to COVID-19 may be a cause of acute abdomen mimicking acute appendicitis. In children, there are reports of absence of intraoperative findings of appendicitis in patients with suggestive symptoms. In this study, there was a significant difference in positive histopathological findings in the COVID period. I suggest discussing this finding. - The authors report a higher proportion of perforation, but fewer open procedures, and both results reached statistical differences. Please provide a possible explanation of this phenomenon or check the accuracy of the results. - It is important to report how many patients tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 at admission as well as how many became positive during hospitalization. Consider if COVID-19 could be a cause of a difference in length of stay. Report the evolution of patients with COVID-19, if any, including the incidence of complications. - Authors use the variable "surgery time" with two different definitions (daytime/nighttime) and (weekdays/weekends) I suggest using different variables or to merge all the results into the same row in Table 1. - Time between the start of abdominal pain and hospital admission was obtained by a telephone interview. The pre-COVID period in this work was between 2018 and 2020. A significant recall bias is presumed. Consider omitting these observations or obtaining them from the files. - If human or physical resources could have an impact on the care of patients requiring surgery in your hospital during the COVID period I suggest discussing this point briefly. - Consider summarizing the discussion section to make it more punctual and easier to



**Baishideng  
Publishing  
Group**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite  
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA  
**Telephone:** +1-925-399-1568  
**E-mail:** [bpgoffice@wjgnet.com](mailto:bpgoffice@wjgnet.com)  
**https://**[www.wjgnet.com](http://www.wjgnet.com)

read. - There are spelling, grammar, and typographical errors, please double-check. Most of the issues are in article usage and verb forms.

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

**Manuscript NO:** 78979

**Title:** Effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on patients with presumed diagnosis of acute appendicitis

**Provenance and peer review:** Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 04611317

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD, MSc, PhD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor, Chief Physician

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Thailand

**Author's Country/Territory:** Turkey

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-07-25

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-07-26 04:35

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-07-30 02:07

**Review time:** 3 Days and 21 Hours

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 type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input checked="" 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

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

#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The overall scientific content is acceptable but there are many points of the English grammar to be polished such as "severe acute respiratory distress syndrome -coronavirus 2" should be "severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2", "have lead to increased complication rates" should be "have led to increased complication rates", "were excluded form our study [23, 24]" should be "were excluded from our study[23, 24], etc. The citation format is not correct. The reference format is not correct. There should be 1 figure to highlight the significant results.

## RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

**Name of journal:** *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

**Manuscript NO:** 78979

**Title:** Effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on patients with presumed diagnosis of acute appendicitis

**Provenance and peer review:** Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 04611317

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD, MSc, PhD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor, Chief Physician

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Thailand

**Author's Country/Territory:** Turkey

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-07-25

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jing-Jie Wang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-08-18 14:36

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-08-19 04:00

**Review time:** 13 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Peer-reviewer</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous

statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

There are substantial points to be corrected: 1. "Coronavirus Infectious Disease 2019 (COVID-19)" should be "Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)". 2. "corona virus (nCoV)" should be "coronavirus (nCoV)". 3. "dmissions to our tertiary care hospital for AAP" should be "Admissions to our tertiary care hospital for AAP". 4. "(OR: 1.76; P = 0.018), presence of AAP findings in ultrasonography (OR; 15.4; p<0.001)" should be the same format of the whole manuscript. 5. "disease was renamed as the COVID-19 [1-5]" should be "disease was renamed as the COVID-19[1-5]" and for all citations. 6. "In January 30th 2020, World Health Organization" and "on March 11, 2020." are not the same format. 7. "guidline was utilized to assess" should be "guideline was utilized to assess". 8. "patients (72.7 %) were operated at weekend" should be "patients (72.7%) were operated at weekend" 9. "psychological and social well being of " should be "psychological and social well-being of". 10. "COVID-19 and AAP " should be ""COVID-19 and AAP". 11. "WBC cound in patients with AAP" should be "WBC count in patients with AAP". 12. "The main concern of the physcians" should be "The main concern of the physicians". and more points to be corrected. The authors do not highlight the changing point as mentioned in the Answering Reviewers's letter. Could you please careful check the whole manuscript again before submit to reviewer?