



## 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

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<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
<b>Conclusion</b>	<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
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input 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

<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
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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.