



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

Manuscript NO: 81759

Title: COVID-19 related liver injuries in pregnancy

Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05480683

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Academic Fellow, Academic Research, Adjunct Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Italy

Author's Country/Territory: Bulgaria

Manuscript submission date: 2022-11-22

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-11-22 19:38

Reviewer performed review: 2022-11-26 15:41

Review time: 3 Days and 20 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous



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statements	Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Number ID: 04480049 Publication Journal: World Journal of Clinical Cases Authors: Metodija Sekulovski, Simona Bogdanova-Petrova, Monika Peshevska-Sekulovska, Tsvetelina Velikova, Tsvetoslav Georgiev Title: COVID-19 related liver injuries in pregnancy Manuscript Type: Review Title Submit Date: 2022-11-19 Title Accepted Date: 2022-11-21 Manuscript Submission Deadline: 2022-11-22 Description: General Impression. This is a well written and organized review manuscript which summarizes the main clinical characteristics and pathoetiology of Covid 19 related liver injury during pregnancy. Dispute an additional work with fundamentally the same topic has recently been published (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36405386/>), the manuscript is thorough and highly informative. The manuscript gives a detailed explanation of the disease and potential causes. It is also well structured and the figure and the table are both well designed and highly informative. I believe that this manuscript is worth publishing subject to minor revisions/improvements. The authors may consider the following comments for improving the review manuscript. (Unfortunately, there is no line indication in the manuscript file). 1) Given that we are entering in December 2022, the current n. of confirmed cases and deaths should be up to date 2) A detailed review manuscript on this topic has recently been published on World Journal of Gastroenterology (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36405386/>). I suggest mentioning this work 3) The SARS-CoV-2 infection during pregnancy has also been hypothesized to be related to abortive events PMID: 35389480 4) The authors should include the term “Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) associated liver injury (COVALI)” in the text 5) “Underlying medical conditions, such as obesity, chronic lung disease (i.e., asthma), and chronic hypertension, decreased ability to tolerate infection associated with these



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conditions [26,27].” One of the main aspects of this phenomenon is the immune modulation process occurring in pregnancy which make pregnant females more predisposed to viral infections (doi: 10.1097/GCO.0B013E328028FDC7). This notion is for instance well explained in this immunological work conducted in a group of pregnant females (DOI: 10.3389/fmicb.2021.789991). I suggest including a couple of words on this notion alongside these two supporting references 6) Authors should check/uniform the font style and font color of the text 7) I suggest rephrasing several sentences on ACE2 receptor. I suggest avoiding terms such as “abundant” or “found” on ACE2 receptors, as being a cell surface protein, which is encoded by a gene. So, I suggest using more appropriate terms such as high/low expression or “ACE2 is differentially expressed” etc... 8) I suggest including a couple of words on SARS-CoV-2 infection and the increased risk of liver cancer given the growing literature in this field (DOI: 10.1111/liv.15320 and <https://bmjopengastro.bmj.com/content/9/1/e000794>) 9) “To our knowledge, this is the first literature review published concerning COVID-19 in pregnant patients with pregnancy-related liver injury.” As said before, this is not true <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36405386/> . Please revise this sentence



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Reviewer's code: 05835740

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: BSc, MD, MSc

Professional title: Academic Fellow, Doctor, Instructor, Research Scientist

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Greece

Author's Country/Territory: Bulgaria

Manuscript submission date: 2022-11-22

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-12-21 17:19

Reviewer performed review: 2022-12-29 19:01

Review time: 8 Days and 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
Novelty of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No creativity or innovation



Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No scientific significance
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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" 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

Dear authors, Generally, you have presented a very interesting review article about the COVID-19 related liver injuries in pregnancy. There are specific comments and remarks about your manuscript as follows: 1) Correct the word "polysyndromic" with the more appropriate one: "syndromic", everywhere at your manuscript. 2) You could add the phrase: "ACE2 receptors" at the Keywords section. 3) At page 4., you could change the phrase: "across the globe", with the word: "globally". 4) At page 5., you should report at the Search Strategy section the following: How many articles did you retrieve totally? What are the inclusion and exclusion criteria of the relevant articles that you studied? It would be beneficial if you present a flow diagram of your research strategy with the keywords that you used, the number of the included and the excluded studies that you reviewed. 5) At page 5. you could add the word "enzyme", after the phrase "including GGT". 6) At page 6. change the word "pessimistic" with the word "poor". 7) At page 8, can you analyze the (PE) and (IHC) abbreviations. It would be beneficial if you could add an abbreviations section after the Keywords section with all the main abbreviations that you use at your manuscript. 8) At page 9, change the word "mirrored" at the 3rd line,



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on the top of the page, with the more appropriate one: "represented" and two lines after the word "puttable" with the correct one: "putable". 9) At page 11, can you analyze in brief the "Swansea criteria"? 10) At page 12, at the last line of the 1st paragraph add the word "three" before the word "babies". 11) At page 13, last line of the page, change the word "dictum", with the more suitable word "statement". 12) At page 14, change the word "corollary" with the word "conclusion". The word "culprit" with the word "cause" and the phrase "across the globe" with the word "globally". 13) At page 15, you can analyze the abbreviation GW as "gestation week" at the penultimate paragraph. 14) At Table 1. change all the phrases "Fly-like" with the correct one "Flu-like" and at the end of the Table, add abbreviation analysis for the abbreviations: M+B, CS, GW, NR that you report at your table. 15) At page 20, can you present more concluding remarks about your findings of COVID-19 related liver injuries and for possible clinical and laboratory markers of this injury to have a more clear and more detailed presentation of your conclusion-discussion section. 16) You can enrich your references with two more suggested and relevant bibliographies, such as: a) Karlafti E, Paramythiotis D, Pantazi K, Georgakopoulou VE, Kaiafa G, Papalexis P, Protopapas AA, Ztriva E, Fyntanidou V, Savopoulos C. Drug-Induced Liver Injury in Hospitalized Patients during SARS-CoV-2 Infection. *Medicina (Kaunas)*. 2022 Dec 15;58(12):1848. doi: 10.3390/medicina58121848. PMID: 36557050; PMCID: PMC9782075 and b) Georgakopoulou VE, Bali T, Adamantou M, Asimakopoulou S, Makrodimitri S, Samara S, Triantafyllou M, Voutsinas PM, Eliadi I, Karamanakis G, Basoulis D, Chatzipanagiotou O, Adamopoulou E, Alevizou A, Athanasiadis M, Spandidos DA, Papalexis P, Tarantinos K, Sipsas NV, Samarkos M, Cholongitas E. Acute hepatitis and liver injury in hospitalized patients with COVID-19 infection. *Exp Ther Med*. 2022 Sep 26;24(5):691. doi: 10.3892/etm.2022.11627. PMID: 36277149; PMCID: PMC9535623. Finally, you should present the limitations of your review study in a separated section, also you can report the future directions of the topic



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described in this review, in a separate section in your text, presenting also the answers about the questions/issues that remain to be solved and the impact of this study to the basic science and/or clinical practice. Also, you have done a very well design of the study, with a very successful relevant figure, but you can improve your overall text so that it is less descriptive and more concise of the relevant scientific articles you have studied so that your particular finding on the covid-19-induced complications of liver function in pregnancy is clearly stated.