

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 67546

Title: Digestive System Involvement and Clinical Outcomes Among COVID-19 Patients
- A Retrospective Cohort Study from an Academic Center in Qatar.

Reviewer's code: 05230016

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: India

Author's Country/Territory: Qatar

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Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-05-05 16:00

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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 Grade E: Do not publish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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input 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 statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

First, this retrospective cohort study found a prevalence of 27.1% of one digestive symptom amongst COVID-19 patients requiring hospitalization. Patients with Gastrointestinal symptoms were more likely to have severe disease at presentation and a longer hospital stay. This finding may help in prognostication of COVID-19 patients needing hospitalization. Second, the manuscript is well written, concise and sheds light on significance of gastrointestinal symptoms both before and during hospitalization. However, in the Table 3, the number of missing data if any and how it was addressed is not mentioned, since this was a retrospective study. Please specify, how many parameters were not found in the database/records and how were the missing parameters addressed. Third, the limitations and strengths of the study are mentioned. This study might help in prognostication of patients who present with gastrointestinal symptoms with COVID-19 for hospitalization.