

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Infectious Diseases*

Manuscript NO: 72064

Title: COVID-19, stigma, and people with disabilities: A mental health perspective

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03716971

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Taiwan

Author's Country/Territory: India

Manuscript submission date: 2021-10-02

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-10-02 08:14

Reviewer performed review: 2021-10-02 09:31

Review time: 1 Hour

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 Grade E: Do not publish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	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous



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statements

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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The letter to the editor emphasizes the importance of eliminating stigma. However, the letter to the editor should discuss more regarding the potential factors that are likely to contribute to the social stigma issues or to be the consequence of social stigma. For example, the vaccine inequity (see Alimoradi et al., 2021) and social distancing (see Shirali et al., 2021). References: Alimoradi Z, Lin CY, Pakpour AH. Coronavirus disease-19 vaccine inequity and gross domestic product. *Asian J Soc Health Behav* 2021;4:129-30 Shirali GA, Rahimi Z, Araban M, Mohammadi MJ, Cheraghian B. Social-distancing compliance among pedestrians in Ahvaz, South-West Iran during the Covid-19 pandemic. *Asian J Soc Health Behav* 2021;4:131-6

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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Manuscript NO: 72064

Title: COVID-19, stigma, and people with disabilities: A mental health perspective

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05382654

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Associate Chief Physician, Deputy Director

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: India

Manuscript submission date: 2021-10-02

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-10-02 07:47

Reviewer performed review: 2021-10-02 16:02

Review time: 8 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 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	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This manuscript mainly addresses public health impact of stigma on people living with disabilities during COVID-19 pandemic and provides some prevention strategies, which could draw the attention of researchers to the concerned area and assist in public health policy making to fight the pandemic. However, some revisions are still needed before being published in World Journal of Clinical Infectious Diseases. 1. Please refer to recent papers published in World Journal of Clinical Infectious Diseases and correct the format, such as: In title, all words should be bold and all words except for the first letter should be in lower case. In page 3, “Key words” and “Author’s contribution” should be changed to “Key Words” and “Author contributions”. In page 4, “To the Editor:” should be changed to “TO THE EDITOR:”. In page 4, “1” should be displayed in superscript “[1]”. Other citations should be modified accordingly. In page 8, “References:” should be changed to “REFERENCES”. 2. Abstract and Core Tip should be provided in the text according to the journal’s requirements. 3. As of 27 July, 2021, the global cumulative number of COVID-19 cases reported has been over 190 million according to the weekly epidemiological update on COVID-19 by WHO (Available from: <https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/weekly-epidemiological-update-on-covid-19---27-july-2021>). Should “COVID-19 cases crossed 30 million” be changed to “COVID-19 cases crossed 190 million” in page 6? 4. In all references, the first author should be bold. In reference 1, 2, 4 and 5, title should be added. In reference 3, “Lancet Public Health. 2020 May;5(5):e257. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2468-2667\(20\)30076-1](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2468-2667(20)30076-1)” should be changed to “Lancet Public Health 2020; 5: e257 [PMID: 32224295 DOI: 10.1016/S2468-2667(20)30076-1]”. Please check all references including content and format carefully according to the journal’s requirements. Other suggestions have been



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listed in the uploaded revised version.

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Infectious Diseases*

Manuscript NO: 72064

Title: COVID-19, stigma, and people with disabilities: A mental health perspective

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05346206

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: India

Manuscript submission date: 2021-10-02

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-10-08 14:25

Reviewer performed review: 2021-10-10 02:04

Review time: 1 Day and 11 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 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 [☒] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dr Raktim Swarnakar raised a good viewpoint with great social significance. Discrimination and stigma are long-standing and complex social problems. New epidemics, such as COVID-19, will inevitably cause social panic and stimulate human fear, which will further aggravate discrimination. It is very necessary to foresee these problems early and carry out propriate education and intervention to prevent serious social mental harm.

RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Infectious Diseases*

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Title: COVID-19, stigma, and people with disabilities: A mental health perspective

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05382654

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Associate Chief Physician, Deputy Director

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: India

Manuscript submission date: 2021-10-02

Reviewer chosen by: Li-Li Wang

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-01-06 04:20

Reviewer performed review: 2022-01-06 13:57

Review time: 9 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
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

My previous comments have been reasonably responded. However, below some minor revisions are still required before being published in World Journal of Clinical Infectious Diseases.

1. Please refer to recent papers published in World Journal of Clinical Infectious Diseases and correct the format. In page 1, Swarnakar P et al. should be added before the running title " COVID, stigma, disability and public health". In page 1, authors and their institutions should be used in correct uppercase or lowercase. In page 3, "[6]" and "[7]" should be changed to "[6, 7]". In page 4, "In summary," should be changed to "SUMMARY".

2. In page 4, "during COVID-19 pandemic" should be changed to "during the COVID-19 pandemic". Additionally, it's suggested that ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS section could be deleted if there is no acknowledgement.

3. In reference 1, 2, 6 and 7, "World Health Organization" or "The United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF)" should be bold, and cited date should be provided. Other suggestions have been listed in the uploaded revised version.