

## Response to reviewers and editorial team

### Reviewer #1:

Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)

Language Quality: Grade A (Priority publishing)

Conclusion: Accept (General priority)

Specific Comments to Authors: The manuscript is interesting. The author highlights the important aspects in screening and treatment of atrial fibrillation in the elderly by showing two examples. This manuscript adds another dimension for recently released review article published in the journal and was moderately written.

**Response:** *Thank you very much for your taking the time to review our manuscript and giving the valuable encouraging comments.*

### Reviewer #2:

Scientific Quality: Grade C (Good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Accept (General priority)

Specific Comments to Authors: The authors wish to address to develop tool to assess inappropriate prescribing for a particular population with a specific disease that should be reflected in the topic. From topic one cannot identify-what the content would be. so the title needs modification and a crisp, clear and focused topic should be prepared. Inappropriate prescriptions for elderly is very common not only in COVID but otherwise is also there; topic touches relevant aspect; However, it modification is needed. The first para of the article may also start focusing the issue that is addressed in the letter to editor. There must be text that elaborates and link with each other and the text with topic as well.

**Response:** *We appreciate the time taken in revising the manuscript and giving this important feedback.*

- **The authors wish to address to develop tool to assess inappropriate prescribing for a particular population with a specific disease that should be reflected in the topic:** *yes, we are trying to enrich the discussion about the topic of beta-blockers in elderly patients with COVID-19 that was published. Beta-blockers are considered one of the most common medications that are discussed whenever we discuss inappropriate prescribing in the elderly. Due the type of the publication, i.e., letter-to-editor, we only suggested or highlighted the importance of updating an existent tool or creating a valid tool that considers COVID-19. It would not be possible to include a detailed discussion about it. The reason for this suggestion is discussed in the manuscript.*
- **From topic one cannot identify-what the content would be. The title needs modification, and a crisp, clear and focused topic should be prepared:** *we agree that the title needs refinement to better matches our discussion. The adjusted title is as follows: "An insight into appropriate medication prescribing for elderly in the COVID-19 era"*
- **Inappropriate prescriptions for elderly is very common not only in COVID but otherwise is also there; topic touches relevant aspect; However, it modification is needed:** *we agree that inappropriate prescribing is a main topic when addressing medical therapy in elderly. However, this*

*topic should be addressed and studied adequately in COVID-19, not only because it is a new disease but also because its treatment interacts with many common medications used by elderly population.*

- **The first para of the article may also start focusing the issue that is addressed in the letter to editor:** *yes, we agree with the reviewer that we should prepare the scene for our discussion in the first paragraph. The paragraph was adjusted by adding the following: polypharmacy, inappropriate medication prescribing and multimorbidity in the elderly are challenging.*

**Response to Nisha Pandey:**

- **Title needs modification:** *we agree that the title needs refinement to better matches our discussion. The adjusted title is as follows: “An insight into appropriate medication prescribing for elderly in the COVID-19 era”*
- **Link between paragraph 1 and 2:** *we agreed, and the following was added: One of the most commonly used cardiac medications are beta-blockers.”*
- **Reference:** *the paragraph was referenced!*

**4 LANGUAGE POLISHING REQUIREMENTS FOR REVISED MANUSCRIPTS SUBMITTED BY AUTHORS WHO ARE NON-NATIVE SPEAKERS OF ENGLISH**

- *We have approached a native English speaker colleague who is a British Electrophysiology Consultant that joined our hospital two or three years ago. He accepted to help us in this and proofread the manuscript for us. We have added an acknowledgement of his support.*