

Reviewer #1:

**Scientific Quality:** Grade C (Good)

**Language Quality:** Grade B (Minor language polishing)

**Conclusion:** Major revision

**Specific Comments to Authors:** Dear Author(s), thank you for your manuscript.

This is a highly important topic, especially now due to ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. However, to the best of my knowledge your article has several omissions. It is lacking in data especially regarding all potential pathophysiological mechanisms linking obesity and increased COVID-19 severity, e.g. more data regarding obesity-related low-grade chronic inflammation, higher expression of angiotensin converting enzyme-2 and pathway-associated components, as well as decreased vitamin D bioavailability, and gut microbiome dysbiosis. Thus, for instance you may refer to E.g. [10.1016/j.obmed.2020.100259](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.obmed.2020.100259). ; [10.1016/j.obmed.2020.100302](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.obmed.2020.100302). At the present time major revision is needed. Best regards, Rewiever.

We would like to thank the reviewer for the overall positive feedback and the specific points mentioned. As reviewer #2 has not asked for corrections but only for minor language polishing we tried to keep a delicate balance between the two reviewers' suggestions, and we added certain points based on reviewer #1. We have addressed all the suggestions in the manuscript by including the interesting points regarding pathophysiological mechanisms related to COVID-19 and have included the references indicated among others. Also the minor language polishing mentioned has been taken into consideration and we have checked and revised where any minor errors were observed. We hope that the current status of the manuscript is acceptable by both reviewers.

Reviewer #2:

**Scientific Quality:** Grade C (Good)

**Language Quality:** Grade B (Minor language polishing)

**Conclusion:** Accept (General priority)

**Specific Comments to Authors:** We thank the authors for this interesting study. In this article, the authors present the many pathophysiological implications of obesity

and adipose tissue dysfunction on lung function, the immune system, and lung infections. This article is well-written and richly researched. I think it is acceptable in its current form and only needs minor changes. 1- The last paragraph of the Introduction section: The manuscript is already finished, so please use the past tense to report what you have done. 2- The abbreviations are numerous and cause misunderstandings among readers. Please keep them to a minimum.

We would like to express our gratitude to the reviewer for the very positive feedback on our manuscript. The Minor language polishing mentioned has been taken into consideration and we have checked and revised where any minor errors were observed, and we have slightly rephrase the conclusion paragraph to improve readability. We also omitted the use of “obese” seen on few occasions in our manuscript and now this has been replaced with the non-stigmatizing terms “individuals or people with obesity”.

Specific points:

1. We have indeed changed the tense to past in the referred paragraph.
2. We have omitted any abbreviations that, as per journal guidelines, were not used for more than two times in the text