

Answers to the reviewers:

Reviewer #1: This is a well written mini-review on acute pancreatitis associated with COVID-19 infection. It emphasizes the importance of proper diagnostic work-up both on the actual presence of AP and possible etiology factors causing AP in patients with COVID-19 infections. Rigorous scientific publication standards are especially important in this pandemic situation, with a high demand for data. Based on the body of evidence, the authors cannot conclude whether or not SARS-COV2 virus is a risk factor for AP or not. There are only a few comments: 1. In the prisma sheet - 49 articles were tested for eligibility, 44 were excluded and 4 were added. This equals 9 articles, not 8. 2. It is stated in the discussion that ACE-2 receptors are abundant in the pancreas. As this is important for invasion by the virus, and probably also organ damage, an article reference to this statement would be appropriate.

Answer: We thank the reviewer for the fast and well-written opinion. As for the suggestions, we are in agreement considering the comments. The small mistake of record numbers was corrected on the PRISMA flowchart. Two references were added of articles discussing pancreatic ACE-2 expression.

Science editor: 1 Scientific quality: This is a systematic review of the insufficient etiological workup/COVID-19-associated pancreatitis. The topic is within the scope of the WJG. (1) Classification: Grade B; (2) Summary of the Peer-Review Report: This is a well written mini-review on acute pancreatitis associated with COVID-19 infection. Based on the body of evidence, the authors cannot conclude whether or not SARS-COV2 virus is a risk factor for AP or not. It is stated in the discussion that ACE-2 receptors are abundant in the pancreas. As this is important for invasion by the virus, and probably also organ damage, an article reference to this statement would be appropriate. The questions raised by the reviewers should be answered; and (3) Format: There are 2 tables and 1 figure. A total of 44 references are cited, including 26 references published in the 2020. There are 2 self-citations. 2 Language evaluation: Classification: Grade A. 3 Academic norms and rules: The authors provided the signed Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form and Copyright License Agreement. No academic misconduct was found in the CrossCheck detection and Bing search. 4 Supplementary comments: This is an unsolicited manuscript. The study was supported by European Union (European Regional Development Fund). The topic has not previously been published in the WJG. The corresponding author has not published articles in the BPG. 5 Issues raised: (1) I found the authors did not provide the approved grant application form(s). Please upload the approved grant application form(s) or funding agency copy of any approval document(s); (2) I found the authors did not provide the original figures. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor; (3) I found the authors did not write the "article highlight" section. Please write the "article highlights" section at the end of the main text; and (4) I have changed the manuscript type "minireview" to "systematic review". The authors need to revise the manuscript according to the Guidelines and Requirements for systematic review and provide the Biostatistics Review Certificate and PRISMA checklist form. 6 Re-Review: Required. 7 Recommendation: Conditionally accepted.

Answer: Thank you for the comments. The required modifications were performed and the missing documentation was provided.