

Manuscript NO: 56156

May 5, 2020

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RE: Manuscript NO: 56156

**Antwi-Amoabeng D, Beutler BD, Moody AE, Kanji Z, Gullapalli N, Rowan CJ:
Management of hypertension in COVID-19**

Dear Na Ma and *World Journal of Cardiology* Editorial Office:

Thank you for your letter from May 5, 2020. My co-authors and I sincerely appreciate the thoughtful recommendations. We have incorporated all revisions into the manuscript, as described below.

Reviewer 1

In the regular time, it is considered that this kind of proposal or recommendation should be made on the basis of careful verification of experimental results and clinico-epidemiological investigation. However, we believe that active recommendations are acceptable if there is a possibility of even a small increase in risk at present during a pandemic state. In view of this, we agree that ACE inhibitor and ARBs should not be prioritized as drugs used in patients with new-onset hypertension. However, scientific validation is not sufficient to agree whether verapamil or carvedilol can be actively recommended because referred animal experiments are too limited. It is reasonable to present the experimental results in mice more specifically and describe them as an option. We believe that sentence expressions giving definitive impressions should be modified.

We sincerely appreciate the favorable review and agree with the insightful recommendations. A succinct and specific summary of the experimental results in mice is now included in the manuscript. In addition, we now more carefully and explicitly express that scientific validation is not sufficient to agree whether verapamil or carvedilol can be actively recommended. Appropriate qualifying language has been implemented to denote the degree of uncertainty.

Science Editor

Issues raised: PMID and DOI numbers are missing in the reference list. Please provide the PubMed numbers and DOI citation numbers to the reference list and list all authors of the references. Please revise throughout.

We apologize for this oversight. PubMed numbers, DOI citation numbers, and an inclusive list of authors has been added to all references.

We sincerely hope that our revised manuscript is now in suitable form for publication in *World Journal of Cardiology*. If there are any further recommendations, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Bryce D. Beutler