

Reviewer's code: 05382654

This systematic review and meta-analysis concluded that the mortality rate of SARS-CoV-2 infection in end-stage kidney disease (ESKD) patients on maintenance hemodialysis is higher than those of general population, and cardiac disease and peripheral vascular are associated with increased COVID-19 mortality in ESKD patients. Meanwhile, ACE-I/ ARBs therapy appears to be safe. These results may be helpful for clinicians in their counseling and management of these patients and public health policy making to fight the pandemic. However, below some revisions are still needed before being published in World Journal of Virology.

1. In title, it is suggested that "Systematic Review with Meta-Analysis" should be changed to "A systematic review and meta-analysis".

Reply: We have revised the title.

2. Please refer to recent papers published in World Journal of Virology and correct the format. In Abstract section, "Introduction:", "Materials and methods:", "Results", "Conclusion", and "Keywords:" should be changed to "BACKGROUND", "METHODS", "RESULTS", "CONCLUSION", and "Key Words:". Additionally, "AIM" section should be added in Abstract. In page 4, "(1)" should be changed to "[1]", and be displayed in superscript. Other citations should be modified accordingly. Meanwhile, Author contributions, Core Tip, ARTICLE HIGHLIGHTS section (including Research background, Research motivation, Research objectives, Research methods, Research results, Research conclusions, and Research perspectives) should be added according to the journal's requirements.

Reply: We have corrected the format of the paper.

3. In "MATERIALS AND METHODS" section, it is suggested that the keywords "SARS coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2), end-stage kidney disease" must be added to search in the databases.

Reply: We have added the keywords “SARS coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2), end-stage kidney disease” in the databases.

4. In “RESULTS” section, it is suggested that “Studies included in our meta-analysis” should be summarized and described briefly, since it has been shown in Table 1. Additionally, the relationship between male gender, cardiac disease, diabetes mellitus, and COVID-19 mortality in ESKD patients could be described as a subheading.

Reply: We have revised the related information in “RESULTS” section.

5. In figure legends, all abbreviations should be given in full text according to the journal’s requirements. Additionally, in Figure 2, 29 should be changed to 1.29, and in Figure 5, 58 should be changed to 0.58. Meanwhile, 12 figures are too much. It is suggested that some of figures could be combined or put in Supplementary Material, while flow diagram for the selection process of identified articles could be added.

Reply: We have revised the related information in figures.

6. In references, all authors, PMID number and DOI should be provided, the first author and volume number should be bold, and journal name should be italic. In reference 8, title and cited date? In reference 34, should “EClinicalMedicine. 2020; 29: 100630. PubMed Abstract | Publisher Full Text | Free Full Text.” be changed to “EClinicalMedicine 2020; 29: 100630 [PMID: 33200120 DOI: 10.1016/j.eclinm.2020.100630]”? Please check other references including content and format carefully according to the journal’s requirements. Throughout the text, please correct the typos, tense and grammatical errors carefully, such as: In “RESULTS” section, should “...OR 1.71...” be changed to “...OR 1.17...”? In table 1, should “Table 1: Studies involved in out meta-analysis” be changed to “Table 1 Studies involved in our meta-analysis”? Other suggestiones have been listed in the uploaded revised version.

Reply: We have revised the references and the related other information.

Reviewer's code: 06247743

In this manuscript, the authors highlight the Mortality Rate of COVID-19 infection in ESKD patients on maintenance hemodialysis: Systematic Review with Meta-Analysis. Overall, the topic is interesting and important; however, the manuscript has major drawbacks and limitations related to data management and statistical analysis, methods, presentation of results and quality of writing. The manuscript requires a full edit for grammar and syntax; I have not pointed out each instance. Major considerations: Why did authors use only two Database (PubMed and Cochrane)? Other databases such as ScienceDirect, Web of Science, ProQuest, Google Scholar etc..., why not considered. Please provide the exact search, as it is unclear how these terms were combined in each database. Were synonyms for these terms included? Provide the syntax for each databases appropriately. I could not find any Egger's funnel plot, Begg's funnel plot and Meta-regression analysis in the text. Please provide these items.

Several sections have not been reported in the manuscript according to PRISMA guideline (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31388330/>) The authors did not mention how they removed the duplicates. Finally, all the analyzed studies must be in the references chapter.

Reply: We have added other Database, and we revised the manuscript according to your suggestions. Thank you!

Re-Reviewer's code: 05382654

Thank you for taking the time to review our manuscript.

1. Please refer to recent papers published in World Journal of Virology and correct the format. In title, "Systematic Review with Meta-Analysis" should be changed to "A systematic review and meta-analysis". (Done)
In page 1, Cancarevic I et al. should be added before the running title "Mortality rate of COVID-19 infection in ESKD patients". (Done)
In "RESULTS" section, "figure 2" should be changed to "Figure 2". Other places should be modified accordingly. (Done)
Throughout the text, "Covid-19" should be changed to "COVID-19". (Done)
2. In references, all DOI should be provided. Other suggestions have been listed in the uploaded revised version. (Done)