OPEN PEER REVIEW

Open Peer Review (OPR)

As a new feature for progressing towards transparency, we decided to open a new window for all of our editors as well as authors titled "**Open Peer Review**". We hope by this new facility, our reviewers will be more motivated and authors will be more satisfied with the review process. We believe that publishing our peer review reports could make a transparent and clear environment for all our efforts within a journal, but not all reviewers tend to publish their comments.

What is "Open Peer Review" process?

An "Open Peer Review" process is making the details of all review process (including reviewers, associate editors, and EICs comments) as "Public" as it is agreed by EIC, Authors, and reviewers.

Advantages of "Open Peer Review" process

- More transparency, constructiveness and tactful comments of the peer review process: leads to an increase in the quality of reviews
- More motivations for all involved roles in the review process
- Authors' satisfactions from the review process: Increases honesty between authors and reviewers
- Education of both authors and new students
- Prevents reviewers from following their individual agendas and leading to the detection of reviewers' conflicts of interests

You can find out more at:
https://brief.land/briefland/knowledgebase/category/tree.html#opr.html

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Peer Review Report for "Neonatal SARS-CoV-2 Infection and Congenital Myocarditis: A Case Report and Literature Review"

Author(s): Reza Amiraskari, Elaheh Sayarifard, Hamed Kharrazi, Neda Naserfar, Azadeh Sayarifard

Review Timeline:

Submit Date: 8 Apr 2020
Revised Date: 17 May 2020
Accepted Date: 4 Jun 2020

Revision (0)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers**, **Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

REFEREE: Reviewer | Revision (0) 11 Apr 2020

Dear AE,
Thanks for submitting of “Neonatal COVID-19 infection in Iran: a case report with literature review” article.
Totally it should be more organized by the authors with relevant English. English edition is needed.
1- ABSTRACT: The sentence “According to the possibility of cardiac injury in COVID-19 disease and the manifestation of it at the birth of our case, it was probable that the neonate would have COVID-19 before birth” can move to the discussion.
2- INTRODUCTION: In the sentence “Pregnant women are at high risk for the virus due to immune suppression” are pregnant women in immune suppression or there are other mechanisms, please describe them?
3- CASE PRESENTATION: Was any radiological evidence for the diagnosis of covid 19 and what was the hospital treatment protocol for the mother?

- In the sentence:" All protective condition was regarded for COVID-19 and there wasn't any contact between mother and baby." It doesn't mean that an isolation strategy was used. Plz change the sentence
- Please show the important lab results in a table and omit the unnecessary ones.
- Did you repeat the troponin or was it necessary to perform?
- What was the result of procalcitonin in the neonate? Was it done?
- The sentence"The first chest x-ray (CXR) after intubation showed asymmetric bilateral ground glass opacity more prominent in the left side and mild hyperinflation that could be due to patient's ventilation (Fig 1)." Is not clear, plz change it.

4- DISCUSSION: the sentence" which may place significant pressure on maternal and neonatal care services (12)." Is not clear
- If the neonate is in respiratory distress then resuscitation is necessary, and this is a clear fact
- What is the result of the first day of birth RT-PCR in neonates?
- The sentence" Also, however, tried to meet all the protection requirements for the baby" is not clear.
- You discussed a negative PCR neonate but your case had a positive PCR test, plz discuss positive PCR results in neonates and their presentation and if you think some results are false negative please discuss it.
- Please discuss more comprehensive and organized positive PCR results in neonates of a mother with SARS-Cov2 infection. And discuss the result of the first birthday result in neonates and it was not performed.

5- REFERENCES:
- Please give the DOI for articles.

Best Regards

Alireza Nateghian: Reviewer | **Revision** (**0**) 17 Apr 2020

Dear AE,

Comments for the authors:
- Please mention exact drugs used for mom and discuss the available data for suspicious moms in discussion
- Some grammatical issues should be addressed
- How do you interpret normal troponin
- How do you assess high LDH and CPK
- HOW CAN YOU EXCLUDE CO-INFECTION OF OTHER VIRUSES LIKE ENTEROVIRAL INFECTION AND FLU?

Thanks.

Ali Amanati: Associate Editor | **Revision** (**0**) 1 May 2020

Dear EIC

The authors should follow the reviewer's comments and reply to the response in a point-by-point manner. Please highlight the new changes with a different color.

English copy-editing is warranted before the next submission.

Other suggestions for authors
- Replace "neonatal COVID-19" with "perinatal SARS-CoV-2 infection" in the abstract and

also, whole article body.
- Suggest using "congenital" rather than slightly cumbersome words such as "COVID-19 before birth"
- The title should be changed, my suggestion: "Perinatal SARS-CoV-2 infection and congenital myocarditis, a case report, and review of the literature"
- The abstract should be organized based on the journal style.
- Keywords totally should be changed: SARS-CoV-2 infection, perinatal, myocarditis, congenital
- Figure 1. except mild hyperinflation and cardiomegaly no other significant findings are visible. rewrite figure legend.
Thanks for revision

REFEREE: EIC | **Revision (0)** 2 May 2020

Dear Author,
Your article is reviewed by the reviewers carefully. According to their comments, this document needs major revision. Please follow their comments as requested.
Thanks.

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Revision (1)

Reply to Reviewers

Ideally, the reviewing process can significantly improve the submitted manuscripts by allowing the authors to take into account the advice of reviewers. Author(s) must reply to all reviewers' comments in a separate Word file, point by point. A "**Reply to Reviewers**" document is submitted along with revised manuscript during submission of revised files, summarizing the changes that the authors made in response to the reviewers' comments. The responses to reviewers' comments specifies how the authors addressed each comment the reviewers made.

You can read the authors' responses to the reviewers' comments in the next page.

Neonatal COVID-19 infection in Iran: a case report with literature review

Reviewers' Comments with answers

	Reviewers' Comments	**Answers**
Reviewer 1:	Please mention exact drugs used for mom and discuss the available data for suspicious moms in discussion	The purpose of this article was to introduce just the neonate infected by SARS-COV-2. So as mentioned in the manuscript, the mother`s information related to the neonate`s situation, such as the mother's history and the condition of delivery is presented. Accordingly, in the discussion, the information of other related studies about neonates infected is given. We did not go into the details of the mothers' information to avoid prolonging the article also repeating the information related to mothers that had mentioned in studies references 9, 14,15-19. Based on review comment the mother`s medication was added as follow: Meropenem (1g stat, then 1g every 8 hours intravenously), vancomycin (1gr stat, then 1g every 12 hours intravenously), hydroxychloroquine (200 mg stat, oral), kaletra (400 mg every 12 hours, oral), and Tamiflu (75 mg every 12 .hours, oral) were prescribed
	How do you interpret normal troponin	However, a negative troponin does not exclude the diagnosis of myocarditis (23, 24). In our case, progressive manifestations in the echocardiogram included elevated pulmonary pressure and decreased EF despite relieving respiratory distress and extubation, and response to IVIG and Millerine was in favor of myocarditis.

	How do you assess high LDH and CPK	The most important cause of increased LDH and CPK is seemed the damaged tissue secondary to hypoxia.
	HOW CAN YOU EXCLUDE CO INFECTION OF OTHER VIRUSES LIKE ENTEROVIRAL INFECTION AND FLU?	Due to the SARS-COV-2 epidemic situation in the region, clinical symptoms, mother`s history and positive rRT-PCR test diagnosis of SARS-COV-2 was confirmed. The related phrases was revised as follow: We reported the case of a newborn in Iran with the diagnosis of SARS-COV-2 basesd on clinical symptoms, mother's history, and positive rRT-PCR test for the mother and the neonate.
	1-ABSTRACT: The sentence "According to possibility of cardiac injury in COVID-19 disease and manifestation of it at the birth of our case, it was probable that the neonate would have COVID-19 before birth" can move to discussion.	Based on journal style the abstract should have conclusion so the mentioned phrase was changed based on the reviewer's comments as follow: According to possibility of cardiac injury in SARS-COV-2 disease and manifestation of congenital myocarditis in our case, maternal vertical transmission of SARS-COV-2 could be considered.
	2- INTRODUCTION: In the sentence "Pregnant women are at high risk for the virus due to immune suppression" are pregnant women in immune suppression or there are another mechanisms, please describe?	The phrase was changed and the related :reference was added Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme 2 (ACE2) is indicated as a receptor for SARS-CoV-2, that is expressed in human placenta (4) Wang C, Zhou YH, Yang HX, Poon LC. Intrauterine vertical transmission of SARS-CoV-2: what we know so far. Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol. 2020 Apr 7. .DOI: 10.1002/uog.22045
	CASE PRESENTATION:Was any radiological evidence for diagnosis	Grandglass opacity in CXR could be a non-specific sign of viral pneumonia.

	of covid 19 and what was the hospital treatment protocol in mother?	The mother’s medication was added.
	In sentence:” All protective condition was regarded for COVID-19 and there wasn't any contact between mother and baby.” It doesn’t mean that isolation strategy was used. Plz change the sentence	It was changed as follow: Immediately after birth, the newborn was transferred to the NICU with a sterile incubator and placed in an isolated room. There was not any contact between the mother and the infant. The treatment team followed individual protective conditions and infection control principles during patient management.
	Please show the important lab results in a table and omit the unnecessary ones.	The blood test is given in table 1.
	- Did you repeated the troponin or was it necessary to perform?	However a negative troponin does not exclude the diagnosis of myocarditis (Ref. 19, 20) , in our case, and progressive manifestations in echocardiogram, included elevated pulmonary pressure and decreased EF despite relieving respiratory distress and extubation and also responding to IVIG and Millerine was in favor of myocarditis.
	What was the result of procalcitonin in the neonate? Was it done?	Procalcitonin was not done.
	The sentence“The first chest x-ray (CXR) after intubation showed asymmetric bilateral ground glass opacity more prominent in left side and mild hyperinflation that could be due to patient's ventilation (Fig 1).” Is not clear, plz change it.	It was changed based on Associate Editor's comment as follows: Except mild hyperinflation and cardiomegaly no other significant findings are visible

	DISCUSSION: the sentence" which may place significant pressure on maternal and neonatal care services (12)." Is not clear	It was replaced with: which can put considerable pressure on maternal and neonatal care services
	- If the neonate is in respiratory distress then resuscitation is necessary, and this a clear fact	The sentence was deleted.
	What is the result of first day of birth RT-PCR in neonate?	The mother was tested after intubation and we received the result of positive rRT-PCR after 48 hours. Then SARS-COV-2 test for neonates was performed. The related sentences was added as follow: The neonate's test for SARS-COV-2 was positive on the fourth day of birth. Because of our resource limitation, SARS-COV-2 test for neonates is performed if the mother's test is positive. Therefore, immediately after the positive report of the mother's test, the neonate was tested for SARS-COV-2.
	- The sentence" Also, however tried to meet all the protection requirements for the baby" is not clear.	It was replaced with: however tried to meet isolation strategy for the baby …
	- You discussed about a negative PCR neonate but your case had positive PCR test, plz discuss on positive PCR results in neonates and their presentation and if you think some results are false negative please discuss on it. - Plz discuss more comprehensive and organized about positive PCR result in neonate of a mother with SARS-Cov2 infection. And discuss about the result of first birth day result in neonate and it	As mentioned in the manuscript, we performed just a short review of literature related to this case and do not claim a systematic review. The discussion was performed based on findings of available similar studies in time of preparing the manuscript. In similar studies PCR tests were performed on different days of birth. The positive PCR was mentioned in Wang's study. Another studies with positive PCR were added in discussion (ref 17-19) based on review`s comment. Summarize the findings of other studies related to rRT-PCR was added.

	was not performed.	Overall some of the previous studies evaluated the presence of SARS-COV-2 in the amniotic fluid, placenta tissues, umbilical cord blood, newborn's nasopharyngeal. Some studies reported positive rRT-PCR and some of them reported negative rRT-PCR however false negative result for rRT-PCR should be considered because of viral loud or insufficient collecting of samples.
	REFERENCES: - Please give the DOI for articles.	DOI was added
Associate Editor's Comments:	English copy-editing is warranted before the next submission.	The manuscript was sent to editing by editing services of Kowsar publisher and certification would be received.
	Replace "neonatal COVID-19" with "perinatal SARS-CoV-2 infection" in the abstract and also, whole article body.	COVID-19 was replaced with SARS-CoV-2 in whole article body
	Suggest using "congenital" rather than slightly cumbersome words such as "COVID-19 before birth"	It was revised as congenital
	The title should be changed, my suggestion: "Perinatal SARS-CoV-2 infection and congenital myocarditis, a case report, and review of the literature"	Since whether SARS-COV-2 has a maternal vertical transmission is still unclear and more evidence is needed the title was changed as follow: Neonatal SARS-CoV-2 infection and congenital myocarditis: a case report with literature review
	The abstract should be organized based on the journal style.	It was revised based on journal style.
	Keywords totally should be changed: SARS-CoV-2 infection, perinatal, myocarditis, congenital	It was revised as: SARS-CoV-2 infection, neonatal,

		myocarditis, congenital
	Figure 1. except mild hyperinflation and cardiomegaly no other significant findings are visible. rewrite figure legend.	It was revised based on the comment

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Revision (1)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers**, **Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

Ali Amanati: Associate Editor | **Revision** (1) 3 Jun 2020

Dear EIC,
I read the revised manuscript
I have no further comments to add ... I thank the authors for their very detailed replies to the comments on the submitted version.
Thanks.

REFEREE: EIC | **Revision** (1) 4 Jun 2020

Dear author
congratulation
According to the reviewers' comments, this manuscript is accepted.
Thanks.