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OPEN PEER REVIEW

Investigation of Demographic, Clinical, Management and Outcome Characteristics Among Iranian Patients with GBS Following COVID Infection

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About this report

This open peer review (OPR) report shows the public comments made on this article during peer review, by the reviewers, the associate editor and the editor-in-chief, for every revision round, together with the authors' replies. Comments appear only with the consent of the people who wrote them. Reviewers who chose to sign their report are named; the others are shown as "Referee". Comments are edited for language only, and confidential remarks to the editors are not included.

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1 Original submission

2 comments · 5 Jun 2024 – 6 Jun 2024

Associate Editor

MINOR REVISION 5 Jun 2024

Dear author
Please edit according to the reviewer's opinion.

Editor-in-Chief

MAJOR REVISION 6 Jun 2024

This article needs major revision.

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Revision 1

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

Dear Reviewers

With special thanks to your refined comments , we tried to correct the manuscript as much as possible.

1- The number of patients with and without covid should be mentioned in Methods

It has been mentioned in line number 74

2- In Methods, had definite, What do you mean? And Translate the sentence again

The sentence has been changed. Because covid infection was asymptomatic in some patients and it was important to be sure about covid history in covid group , we had to exclude asymptomatic patientS and covid group were selected based on the positive PCR, lung CT compatible with covid infection or clinical symptom of covid.

3- All the variables in Table 1 are not mentioned in Methods.

The variable ' interval between GBS and COVID' has been added in line number 76

4- Mention the method of data analysis in the methods.

It has been mentioned in 'Statistical analysis' part, in line number80

5- The results should be mentioned more generally in the abstract. No need to mention the details and Some sentences in this part do not have a verb.

It has been changed

6- In Introduction, Some types of peripheral nervous system disorders . (add the word disorders.)

It has been added

7- In Introduction, In the continuation of this syndrome, the word Guillain-Barré should be mentioned.

It has been mentioned

8- In Introduction, Some of the results of the mentioned studies should be mentioned.

Some of them has been mentioned and highlighted.

9- In Introduction Reference 16 was written earlier than 15.

Reference 15 was written in line 43 for the first time and it is before reference 16.

10- In Materials and methods, The size of the research population and the sampling method should be specified

The size of research population was 143 people and because of the type of disease and its prevalence we use all GBS patients in mentioned time interval. We collected GBS patients in covid era and then in retrograde manner collected GBS patients before beginning of covid till we have similar number of GBS patient without covid.

11- All the variables in Table 1 should be mentioned in this section and the word research tool should be written in the methods.

It has been mentioned and highlighted.

12- Ethical considerations and exclusion criteria should be noted in methods.

It has been mentioned and highlighted

13- The results start like this: Among patients with covid...

It has been changed.

14- In the sentence 101,The mean of age was more higher in COVID patients compared with non-COVID patients.

It has been corrected in line 97.

15- In the sentence 106,Type of treatment

It has been corrected in line 102.

16- In the sentence 115, A significant level should be mentioned.

It has been corrected in line 111.

17- In the sentence 115, 15 groups

It has been corrected in line 119.

18- In the sentence 133, Based on the search conducted by the researcher

It has been deleted.

19- In the sentence 134, The prevalence rate should be mentioned

In the referral study there were not any number rate for prevalence and it just mentioned as high prevalence.

20- In the sentence 137, Explain about studies

In the mentioned studies there were no significant difference between men and women in GBS patients with and without covid infection.

21- In the sentence 143, The word research should be mentioned

It has been mentioned.

22- In the sentence 153,The sentence should be edited in terms of writing

It has been edited.

23- At the end, write that it is similar to the current results.

It has been mentioned.

24- In the sentence 169, In current study

It has been corrected.

25- In the sentence 183According to Table 2, dysphagia was less than others

It has been mentioned in line 179.

26- In the sentence 185, This explanation is related to which variable from table 2?

It is related to both of facial paralysis and Ptosis & ophthalmoplegia and the sentence has been changed.

27- In general, it is mentioned in the discussion of the articles in general and closed

It has been corrected.

28- Regarding the variable of death, the need for mechanical ventilation was not discussed

It has been mentioned and highlighted in line 166, variables death rate, ICU admission and need for ventilation were discussed together as outcome marker.

29- For references 16 and 19, DOI should be mentioned.

It has been corrected.

Reviewer 2:

- The title of the manuscript is not appropriate and should be corrected.

It has been corrected as ' Investigation of demographic, clinical, management and outcome characteristics among Iranian patients with GBS following COVID infection'.

- Only the most important results should be reported in the abstract.

It has been changed.

- What is the basis of the sample size?

The size of research population was 143 people and because of the type of disease and its prevalence we use all GBS patients in mentioned time interval. We collected GBS patients in covid era and then in retrograde manner collected GBS patients before beginning of covid till we have similar number of GBS patient without covid.

- Sort the data collection section and remove the extra description.

It has been changed.

- Also state the type of statistical test in the results report.

It has been mentioned in 'statistical analysis' part separately.

- The discussion should be coherent and scientific and in line with the results of the study. Similar and discrepant studies should also be measured.

It has been changed insofar we understand from the comment.

-The conclusion should be reported scientifically.

We couldn't understand the exact meaning of the comment, how should it changed to be scientific?

- Conflicts of interest of authors and funders are not mentioned.

It has been mentioned in line 207.

- Improve the English language of the manuscript.

We had tried to do it as much it was possible.

2 Revision 1

1 comment · 27 Jan 2025

Associate Editor

MAJOR REVISION 27 Jan 2025

In the abstract, the most important main results should be reported.
The results should be presented in a table format. Results should be reported either in the text or in a table, avoiding repetition.
The English translation also needs improvement.
In the discussion of the article, please avoid repeating quantitative results and focus more on comparing scientific evidence with the results of the present study.

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Revision 2

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

Response to Reviewers

Manuscript Title: Investigation of Demographic, Clinical, Management, and Outcome Characteristics Among Iranian Patients with GBS Following COVID Infection

Manuscript ID: 145778

Dear Editor,

We sincerely thank you and the reviewers for the time and effort dedicated to reviewing our manuscript. We greatly appreciate the constructive feedback, which has helped us improve the quality of our work. Below, we have provided detailed responses to each comment, along with the corresponding revisions highlighted in the manuscript.

Comment:

In the abstract, the most important main results should be reported.

Response:

Thank you for your valuable feedback. We have revised the abstract to include key statistical results, such as the significant difference in mean age between COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 groups ($p=0.001$) and the prevalence of limb weakness as the most common clinical presentation in both groups.

Comment:

The results should be presented in a table format. Results should be reported either in the text or in a table, avoiding repetition.

Response:

We appreciate this suggestion. The results section has been reorganized to present the data more concisely in tabular format. We have removed repetitive information from the text to avoid redundancy.

Comment:

The English translation also needs improvement.

Response:

Thank you for pointing this out. The manuscript has undergone thorough English language editing to enhance grammar, sentence structure, and clarity, ensuring it meets academic standards.

Comment:

In the discussion of the article, please avoid repeating quantitative results and focus more on comparing scientific evidence with the results of the present study.

Response:

We have revised the discussion section to reduce repetition of quantitative data. The focus is now more on comparing our findings with relevant literature, highlighting similarities and differences with previous studies on COVID-19-associated GBS.

We hope the revisions meet the expectations of the reviewers and the editorial team. Thank you again for your insightful comments and suggestions.

Sincerely,

Corresponding author

3 Revision 2

0 comments

No public comments in this round.