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OPEN PEER REVIEW

The Different Clinical Characteristics of COVID-19 Patients Between Pediatric and Adults

Awat Karimi, Shirin Behzadi, Mehri Rahimi, Naoshad Mohammadi, kaveh rahimi, saeed rezaie

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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

1 comment · 19 Jan 2021

Referee 1 Reviewer

MAJOR REVISION 19 Jan 2021

Dear Editor in Chief

Thank you for choosing me as the reviewer of the manuscript “The clinical features of pediatric COVID-19 patients compared with those of adult patients”.

Some points about the manuscript
1. The title should be corrected.
2. The importance of clinical and laboratory features and their differences between adults and children is not explained in the introduction.
3. The study method is highly incomplete.
4. The method section does not mention the adult group or how they were selected.
5. The sampling method for adult patients is not mentioned.
The definition of lymphopenia in adults and children is different. It is not mentioned in the Method section.
6. The normal values listed in table 1 are not correct for children, for example, MCV, Lymphocyte percentage, PMN, etc.

7. The same data should not be presented in tables and text simultaneously.
8. Some references are not consistent with the Zahedan Journal Guideline, for example, ref no 3, 4, 5, 7.
9. It needs major revision before it can be considered for acceptance.

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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 Editor

Thanks to the dear reviewers, the following corrections were made.

All comments of the reviewers are shown in yellow highlight in the text of the article.

Best regards

Reviewer 1:

1. Title should be corrected. The title was changed.

2. The importance of clinical and laboratory features and their differences between adults and children are not explained in the introduction. In this case, the studies that have been done in this field were mentioned

3. The method of study is highly incomplete. Corrections were made

4. The method section does not mention the adult group and how to select them. Corrections were made

5. Method of sampling for adult patients is not mentioned. Corrections were made

The definition of lymphopenia in adults and children is different. It is not mentioned in the Method section. Corrections were made

6. The normal value listed in table 1 are not correct for children for example MCV, Lymphocyte percentage, PMN.... Corrections were made

7. The same data should not be presented in tables and text, simultaneously. Corrections were made

Reviewer 2:

The article was completely edited by an english literature specialist.

Reviewer 3:

With what software were the analyses performed? Please add this. The data were analyzed using SPSS software.

With what analysis were the qualitative variables, such as the number of coughs and the number of diarrhea episodes, analyzed? The correction was made.

Enter the exact P values; "below 0.05" and "above 0.05" is not sufficient. The exact P values were entered.

Separate tables are not needed; it is sufficient to include one table of the clinical characteristics of both adults and children and to add the results of the statistical tests as P values. The tables were merged.

And one table of the laboratory data, again for both groups, with P values. The tables were merged.

Write the PLT number in the table with two digits; refer to similar articles for guidance on how this number should be reported. The correction was made.

[Translated from Persian by the Brieflands editorial office.]

2 Revision 1

0 comments

No public comments in this round.

3

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.

Dear Editor

Thanks to the dear reviewers, the following corrections were made.

All comments of the reviewers are shown in yellow highlight in the text of the article.

Best regards

Reviewer 1:

For qualitative data, the chi-square test or Fisher's exact test should be used; the Mann-Whitney test is used incorrectly here.

The t-test is used for quantitative variables, not for count variables.

Why were some of the laboratory tests of the adults not recorded in Table 2? For this comparison, with such a small number of individuals, there should at least have been complete laboratory results; explain the reason. The available data were added.

Please consult a statistics specialist.

The data were re-examined in collaboration with the statistical consultant of the research project.

Data were analyzed using SPSS software. The studied continuous variables were described as mean and standard deviation (mean±SD) and the categorical variables were reported as frequency and percent. Mean difference for continuous data between two studied group, pediatric and adult patients, were analyzed using independent sample T test or its corresponding non-parametric test (Manne Whitney). Chi-square or the Fisher's exact test was used to compare the frequency distribution of categorical data between two groups. A p-value of less than 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

Reviewer 2:

Dear Editor in chief

The intended corrections have not been made(for example comment no 5, 6) The corrections were made.

The title of Table 1 is not appropriate.("Clinical characteristics of pediatric patients infected with SARS-CoV-2" should change to"Demographic characteristics of pediatric patients infected with SARS-CoV-2." The title of Table was changed. Demographic characteristics of pediatric patients infected with SARS-CoV-2

The contents of Table 2 are incomplete. Hematological indexes for adults are not listed in the table (Hb, MCV, MCH...) Hematological indexes for adults were added.

[Translated from Persian by the Brieflands editorial office.]

3 Revision 2

1 comment · 11 Aug 2021

Associate Editor

ACCEPT 11 Aug 2021

Accept