

Dear Na Ma, Company Editor-in-Chief, Editorial Office  
Baishideng Publishing Group Inc

Thank you for your mail dated 2020-25-07,

We revised our invited manuscript NO: 56590 titled "Current status of COVID-19 Treatment: An Opinion Review", submitted to World Journal of Virology.

According to the reviewer and Editorial Office's comments and suggestions we provided a point to point response. We also highlighted the change in red according to the comments.

Thank you very much for your efforts in expediting the processing of our manuscript.

Sincerely,

Marco Fiore, MD

2020-08-07

## **ANSWERS TO REVIEWER COMMENTS**

### **Reviewer 1**

Scientific Quality: Grade C (Good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Minor revision

Specific Comments to Authors: The manuscript by Franco et al. reviews covid-19 treatment. Covid-19 outbreak has been half year and the case number is strikingly high. The review on its treatment is important to the field. It seems the authors did not carefully check the manuscript, as the introduction part still has the sentence deaths[2]. (to be updated at the time of submission). As of July 7, 2020, the positive case number is over 11,941,000 worldwide. The authors need indicate the date to reflect the case number when to be reviewed.

Many thanks for the suggestion, we updated the data "It has now spread worldwide with recent epidemiological data reporting a number of 18,614,177 infected and 702,642 deaths" (page 6, lines 4-5)

The authors reviewed 1) What kind of studies are currently published or ongoing in the treatment of patients with COVID-19?

We stated that “According to the International Clinical Trial Registry Platform database there are 1918 reported studies, with 1744 ongoing on COVID-19 patients [4]. Of these studies 1661 are specific for the treatment of SARS-CoV-2 infection” (pag 7, lines 4-5)

This section needs more detailed and summarized information. How many categories of drugs of 1097 studies?

1 We summarized the most investigated drugs for the treatment of COVID-19 in table 1  
2 (pag 11-12); furthermore, we added in the text that

- 3 1. “The most common classes of drugs used include antimalarial drugs,  
4 immunomodulators, convalescent plasma, antiretrovirals, antibacterial drugs, lipid-  
5 lowering medications, anticoagulants and recently ivermectin” (pag 7, lines 30-32);
- 6 2. “Among the drugs that seem to possess immunomodulatory benefits and to reduce  
7 Sars-Cov-2 cell penetration there are statins (the most prescribed ones are the  
8 atorvastatin 20mg/day or an equivalent dose of rosuvastatin 40mg/day). Statins  
9 act reducing chemokine release, adhesion molecules, and modulating T cell activity.  
10 Rosuvastatin, in particular, appears to have direct antiviral properties by binding  
11 and inhibiting the active site of the main protease enzyme (Mpro) of SARS-CoV-2.  
12 In a retrospective analysis Zhan X.J. et al. found that statin treatment among 13,981  
13 patients with COVID-19 was associated with a lower risk of all-cause mortality.  
14 Furthermore, the addition of Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors (ACEi) or  
15 Angiotensin II receptor blockers (ARBs) did not affect statin-associated outcome in  
16 the studied cohort. [12] (pag 8, lines 25-32)
- 17 3. converting enzyme inhibitors (ACEi) or Angiotensin II receptor blockers (ARBs)  
18 did not affect statin-associated outcome in the studied cohort. [12] (pag 9, lines 1-2)
- 19 4. Among these drugs there is Ivermectin an FDA-approved anti-parasitic. This drug  
20 showed to have broad-spectrum anti-viral activity only in vitro, [48] and results of a  
21 phase 1 study are (pag 11, lines 31-33)
- 22 5. absolutely needed before using ivermectin. There are not enough data to support a  
23 recommendation for its use in a higher-than-approved dosage (pag 12, lines 1-2)

## **Editorial Office's comments**

The author must revise the manuscript according to the Editorial Office's comments and suggestions, which listed below:

(1) Science Editor: 1 Scientific quality: The manuscript describes an opinion review the current status of COVID-19 treatment. The topic is within the scope of the WJV. (1) Classification: Grade C; (2) Summary of the Peer-Review Report: The authors reviewed covid-19 treatment. Covid-19 outbreak has been half year and the case number is strikingly high. The review on its treatment is important to the field. However, the authors need to carefully check the manuscript; and (3) Format: There is 1 table and 1 figure. A total of 47 references are cited, including 40 references published in the last 3 years. There are no self-citations. 2 Language evaluation: Classification: Grade B. One author is the native English speaker. 3 Academic norms and rules: The authors provided the signed Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form and Copyright License Agreement. No academic misconduct was found in the CrossCheck detection and Bing search. 4 Supplementary comments: This is an invited manuscript. The topic has not previously been published in the WJV. 5 Issues raised: The authors did not provide original pictures. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor. 6 Re-Review: Required. 7 Recommendation: Conditional accepta

**We prepared and arranged the figure using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor.**