**Name of journal:** World Journal of Methodology

**Manuscript NO:** 73515

**Title:** COVID-19 and thyroid disease: an infodemiological pilot study

**Provenance and peer review:** Invited manuscript; externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer’s code:** 05467628

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MBBS

**Professional title:** Doctor, Research Fellow

**Reviewer’s Country/Territory:** India

**Author’s Country/Territory:** Greece

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-11-23

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-12-12 07:08

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-12-19 05:45

**Review time:** 6 Days and 22 Hours

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<th>[ ] Grade B: Very good</th>
<th>[Y] Grade C: Good</th>
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS
This is an internet metrics work that utilizes GOOGLE TRENDS (GT) to investigate trends in searches for COVID-19 and thyroid disease. The manuscript builds upon existing works in the literature that utilize the same technique. While the work is interesting, several changes are required before the manuscript becomes appropriate for publication. Given below are my comments in no particular order:

1. There is excessive use of parentheses i.e. ( ), throughout the manuscript. These are not encouraged in academic writing, and rather clauses should be utilized for the same purpose.

2. Abstract has unexplained abbreviations, which need rectification.

3. Methods section should be expanded and divided into subheadings (e.g. data collection, inclusion & exclusion criteria, statistical analysis). Please refer to prior publications utilizing GTs.

4. Figure captions have unexpanded abbreviations, which need rectification. Each figure caption should be standalone.

5. It is possible to have figures 2 and 4 merged into a large graph with dual y-axes. This would be more useful to the reader in drawing the correlation.

6. Why has fatigue been taken as a search term? 'Fatigue' is a highly non-specific symptom, occurring in a wide variety of diseases and conditions, not just thyroid disease, but also in long COVID (a major confounding factor). Kindly justify within manuscript or rectify.
Name of journal: *World Journal of Methodology*

Manuscript NO: 73515

Title: COVID-19 and thyroid disease: an infodemiological pilot study

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer’s code: 05371577

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: BSc

Professional title: Research Assistant

Reviewer’s Country/Territory: China

Author’s Country/Territory: Greece

Manuscript submission date: 2021-11-23

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-01-18 03:16

Reviewer performed review: 2022-01-25 00:51

Review time: 6 Days and 21 Hours

| Scientific quality       | [ ] Grade A: Excellent | [ ] Grade B: Very good | [ ] Grade C: Good |
|                         | [ ] Grade D: Fair      | [ ] Grade E: Do not publish |
| Language quality         | [ ] Grade A: Priority publishing | [ ] Grade B: Minor language polishing |
|                         | [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing | [ ] Grade D: Rejection |
| Conclusion               | [ ] Accept (High priority) | [ ] Accept (General priority) |
|                         | [ ] Minor revision     | [ ] Major revision      | [ ] Rejection |
| Re-review                | [ ] Yes               | [ ] No                  |
| Peer-reviewer            | Peer-Review: [ ] Anonymous | [ ] Onymous |

PEER-REVIEW REPORT
SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS
This manuscript is an infodemiological pilot study, assessing COVID-19 cases per se vs COVID-19-associated GT searches and thyroid-associated GT searches. There are several questions: 1. The frequency of vocabulary is related to the public's attention to the vocabulary, which can not directly reflect the epidemiological characteristics of the diseases involved in the vocabulary. 2. Why only choose the words listed in the methodology. 3. What's the point of doing this research? It needs to be clarified in the introduction.
RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

Name of journal: World Journal of Methodology

Manuscript NO: 73515

Title: COVID-19 and thyroid disease: an infodemiological pilot study

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer’s code: 05467628

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MBBS

Professional title: Doctor, Research Fellow

Reviewer’s Country/Territory: India

Author’s Country/Territory: Greece

Manuscript submission date: 2021-11-23

Reviewer chosen by: Ji-Hong Liu

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-02-18 13:37

Reviewer performed review: 2022-02-18 13:48

Review time: 1 Hour

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS
The authors have constructively engaged with the reviewer's comments through which their manuscript has improved. Their manuscript seems appropriate for publication.