Clinical and Demographic Characteristics on Admission and Their Prognostic Value at Discharge in 529 Consecutive COVID-19 Patients in Santiago, Chile

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Abstract: On June 04, 2020, Chile had 113,628 cases COVID-19, 1275 deaths, 1450 patients were on invasive mechanical ventilation (IMV). The objective was describing the characteristics on admission and their relationship with the condition at discharge of patients with positive real-time polymerase chain reaction test for SARS CoV-2 (RT-PCR) in a tertiary health center. Methods: Retrospective and observational cohort study of 529 consecutive patients with positive RT-PCR for SARS CoV-2, discharged between March 14 and June 4, 2020 from Clinica Davila, Santiago. Demographic data, laboratory tests, Quality Adjusted Life Years (QALY), medical insurance, ventilatory assistance, and discharge condition were collected. Differences were
evaluated by chi-square test, student's t test, or Mann–Whitney U test. Logistic regression analysis was performed to identify variables that were predictive of condition at discharge. Results: A total of 529 patients were included (median age, 49 years [interquartile range {IQR}, 37-62; range, 0-97 years]; 45% women). The most common comorbidities were hypertension (171, 32.3%) and diabetes mellitus (98, 18.5%). On admission 352 patients (66.5%) had respiratory symptoms and 177 (33.4%) had other symptoms or other diagnoses. The median (IQR) PaO$_2$/FiO$_2$, creatinine and high sensitivity Troponin at the described cut-off points had prognostic value. At discharge, the non-survivors were the older, most often had state health insurance and their QALY scores were significantly lower. Conclusions: this cohort showed that on admission COVID-19 patients, the PaO$_2$/FiO$_2$, creatinine and high sensitivity T troponin at the described cut-off points had prognostic value. At discharge, the non-survivors were the older, most often had state health insurance and their QALY scores were significantly lower. 

Keywords: Coronavirus Infections, Quality Adjusted Life Years, Health Insurance, Pcr Sars CoV2, Prognostic Factors, COVID-19

1. Introduction

The first case of COVID-19 was reported in Chile on 3 March 2020. On June 04, 2020, Chile had 113,628 cases COVID-19, 1275 deaths, 1450 patients were on invasive mechanical ventilation (IMV) in intensive care unit (ICU) [1]. On that date Clínica Davila had 529 patients discharged with positive SARS CoV-2 (RT-PCR). This private hospital is located in the northern area of Santiago, in the commune of Recoleta, it has 647 beds is the largest private hospital in Chile (Figures 1 and 2). Between April and June 2020, the hospitalizations of COVID-19 patients were increasing as well as the need to provide ventilatory support, this forced tripling the capacity of intensive care units, including the conversion of surgical wards for this purpose. The increase in the number of patients requiring hospitalization motivated to search for variables on admission that had prognostic value. Main objective was to describe the demographic, clinical and laboratory characteristics of patients with positive RT-PCR for SARS CoV-2 on admission and their prognostic value at discharge. According to global reports, 81% of COVID-19 infections are mild, 14% severe and 5% require intensive care [2]. Mortality rates published by China, Italy and the United States range from 1.4% among hospitalized patients to 61.5% among critically ill patients [3, 4].

2. Patients and Methods

2.1. Subjects

All adults and children of both sexes, consecutively discharged from Clínica Davila between March 14, 2020 and June 4, 2020, with a positive RT-PCR test for SARS CoV-2, were included in this study. Patients remained hospitalized for at least 24 hours at any of the Clinic's department. The sequence in which patients were discharged was in March, 6 patients; in April, 17 patients; in May, 452 patients and in the first 4 days of June, 54 patients.

2.2. Ethical Issues and Informed Consent

This study was conducted in accordance with the Helsinki Declaration [5] and was approved by the Davila Clinic Scientific and Ethics Committee.

2.3. Study Design

Retrospective and observational cohort study whose date were collected from the establishment's electronic clinical record (RCE) (www.tisal.cl); compiled into a database created for the study and designed to ensure that patients' identities were protected.

2.4. Methods

The diagnosis of COVID-19 was made according to World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines. Confirmed case samples were obtained from the upper respiratory tract by nasopharyngeal swab [6]; they were registered in the mandatory reporting system, Epivigila (https://epivigila.org.cl) [7], established by the Ministry of Health (MINSAL); were collected respiratory and non-respiratory symptoms, sex, age, health insurance, duration of pre-entry symptoms and comorbidities: type 2 diabetes mellitus (DM2), high blood pressure (HTA), cancer, AIDS-HIV, immunosuppression for other causes, heart failure, renal failure, obesity, coronary heart disease, bronchial asthma, active smoking and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; in addition, the results of laboratory on admission, hospital stay, ventilatory support (expressed in days), hospitalization unit and discharge condition (survivors, non-survivors or transfer to another institution), the data were obtained retrospectively from the RCE. Also, in all patients the Quality-Adjusted years of life (QALY) score was calculated, this score corresponds to a generic disease burden measurement used to assess the impact of therapeutic measures on expected survival quality with or without intervention [8-10]. QALY was calculated considering the
life expectancy for men and women expressed in years (80.5 years) [11] and proceeded to use the following formula:

\[\text{life expectancy} = [(80.5 - \text{age}) \times (1 - X)],\]

being "X":
- 0 in case it had no comorbidity.
- 0.1 for each compensated comorbidity.
- 0.2 for each decompensated comorbidity.
- 0.3 in case of bedridden patient

2.5. Process Description Sampling, Ethological Agent and Laboratory Tests

Laboratory tests on admission were performed in the emergency room or within the first 3 hours of admission, including:
- Real-time PCR viral panel (identifying seventeen viruses), real-time PCR bacterial panel (identifying seven bacteria), urinary antigen for Pneumococcus and Legionella, blood cultures and expectoration cultures.
- Arterial blood sample for gases, calculation of the relationship between partial blood pressure of \(O_2\) and the fraction of \(O_2\) that the patient was receiving at the time of sample collection (\(PaO_2 / FiO_2\)), serum ferritin levels, Double dimer (D-dimer), C-reactive protein (PCR), creatinine, high sensitivity T troponin, procalcitonin, hematocrit, platelet count and leukocyte count.
- The \(PaO_2 / FiO_2\) obtained before the start of ventilatory support was also recorded in the database.

2.6. Methods of Oxygen Administration and Ventilatory Support Used

The \(O_2\) administration was carried out as follows:
1. Low flow nasal cannula (maximum flow 4 L / min).
2. High flow ventilation mask (\(FiO_2\) between 40% and 50%).
3. Non-recirculation mask (\(FiO_2\) between 50% and 90%).
4. High Flow Nasal Cannula (HFNC).
5. Non-invasive mechanical ventilation (NIMV).
6. IMV.
- The devices used were as follows:
  - HFNC: AIRVO 2 (Fisher & Paykel, Nueva Zelanda).
  - NIMV: Philips Respironics V60, BiPAP Vision, Trilogy 100 and Trilogy 202.
  - IMV: Avea, Vela, Bellavista (VYAIRE Medical, INC), Engstrom Carestation (General Electric), MAQUET (Getinge Group), Nellcor Puritan Bennett 840 (Medtronic) and GE Datex Ohmeda Aestiva 5 (General Electric) anesthesia machines.

2.7. Statistical Analysis

Quantitative variables were described by means of averages and standard deviation (for those with normal distribution) and with median and inter quarterly range (Q1, Q3) (for those without normal distribution). Categorical variables were described by absolute and relative frequencies; For categorical variables, the association with the discharge condition was evaluated by the chi-square test, while for quantitative variables, the association was evaluated by the student t-test (normal distribution) or the Mann-Whitney U-test (non-normal distribution). To assess risk factors at discharge univariate and multivariate logistic regression models were used. First, the variables were analyzed individually; those with a p-value less than 0.1 were incorporated into a staggered model with "direct selection" and variables with a Pearson correlation greater than 0.8 were excluded to avoid collinearity and choose variables with higher predictive capacity. Finally, univariate models were used with variables categorized according to clinical criteria, variables with a p-value less than 0.1 were re-incorporated into a staggered model. Significance level (\(\alpha\)) less than or equal to 0.05. All analyses were performed using STATA v14.2 IC (StataCorp) software. LLC, USA.

3. Results

3.1. General Characteristics, Duration of Symptoms and Cause of Admission

The median age (Q1, Q3) was 49 (37 - 62) years; 45% were women, 353 patients (68.5%) were under the age of 50, 68 patients (13%) were 70 years of age or older and 14 (2.6%) were minors (Table 1). Of the cohort, 171 patients (32.3%) were hypertensive, 98 were diabetic (18.5%), 86 patients (16.2%) obese (BMI> 29.9) and 21 patients (4%) referred active smoking to income. The median QALY was 29.7 points (16.8 - 43.7) (Table 1). The median duration of symptoms before admission was 6 days (3 - 8). Of the 529 patients, 352 (66.5%) were hospitalized for respiratory symptoms and the remaining 177 patients (33.4%), the reasons for hospitalization were other non-respiratory diagnoses or other symptoms, of these, 84 patients (15.9%) had digestive symptoms (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea or abdominal pain), severe myalgias or headache that did not respond to outpatient treatment; 23 (4.34%) entered for other concomitant infections (cholangitis, acute cholecystitis, acute pyelonephritis, or others) and 70 patients (13.2%) for non-infectious causes (pregnancy, newborns, acute coronary syndrome, deep vein thromboembolism and others) (Table 1). In these cases, the diagnosis of SARS CoV-2 was performed by mandatory screening of RT-PCR prior to hospitalization.

3.2. Global Lethality, Depending on Age, QALY, Respiratory Support, Health Insurance and Other Conditions

At discharge 448 patients (84.7%) were survivors, with a median age of 46 (36 - 59) years, and 54 non-survivors (10.2%), with median age 75.5 (66 - 84) years (\(p = 0.001\)) (Table 2). Of the dead, 45 patients (83.3%) were 60 years of age or older, with a lethality of 29% for the group of 60 years or older (Table 3). The QALY score of the survivors was 33 points (9.7 to 44.7) and in non-survivors of 4.4 points (-2.2 to 12.3) (\(p = 0.001\)). (Table 2). The duration of hospitalization was 6 (4-10) days for the survivors on discharge and 6.5 (4-13) days for the non-survivors.
(p = 0.337) (Table 2). Of the 529 patients, 177 (33.45%) no oxygen or ventilatory support required, 236 (44.6%) received oxygen at variable flows or High Flow Nasal Cannula (CNAF) and 116 (21.9%) needed NIMV or IMV. None of the patients in this cohort underwent extracorporeal membrane oxygenation. The median (IQR) PaO2 / FiO2 on admission of survivors, non-survivors and transferred were 316 (261-360), 167 (80-268) and 212 (130-261) respectively (Table 2). Of the 116 patients receiving IMV or NIMV, 67 were alive (57.8%), 28 dead (24%) and 21 (18%) were transferred to another hospital. The transfer of patients to other centers was under the jurisdiction of MINSAL’s Centralized Bed Management Unit (UGCC), which moved patients that did not have a bed available in the hospital where they consulted. In this cohort, 27 patients were transferred to other hospitals, including 21 patients directly to ICU beds available at other centers (Table 3). In relation to health insurance, 195 patients (36.86%) had private health insurance, with an average age ≥ 60 years, QALY score ≤ 15, D dimer > 1 ug / ml, High-sensitive T Troponin ≥ 15 ng/L, C Reactive Protein (PCR) > 8.2 ng/dL, Procalcitonin ≥ 0.5 ng/ml and Creatinine > 1.4 mg% were associated with increased risk of death, while the multivariate analysis of these showed that the QALY score ≤ 15 points, PaO2 / FiO2 on admission ≤ 200 and Ultrasensitive T Troponin ≥ 15 ng/L, were risk factors for death to discharge (Table 4).

4. Discussion

In our cohort the median age was 49 years and intrahospital lethality was 10.8%. In a similar cohort, 393 consecutive cases, median age was 62.2 years (IQR; 48.6 - 73.7) with an overall lethality of 10.2% [14]. Other report of 5700 patients analyzed, the median age was 63 years (IQR; 52 - 75) with a range of 0 to 107 years (15). A study with 2215 patients who entered the ICU, the average age (SD) was 60.5 (14.5) years, at the end of this study 39.5% died and 54.3% were discharged [13]. In our cohort of the 116 patients receiving ventilatory support, the average age was 55.9 (14.1) years, 57.8% survivors and 24% deaths.

A study that described factors associated with death on admission to ICU, they found that older patients (age ≥ 80 years versus < 40 years of age; OR, 11.15; 95% CI: 6.19 - 20.06) and the presence of hypoxemia (PaO2 / FiO2 <100 vs ≥ 300 mmHg; OR, 2.94; 95% CI: 2.11 - 4.08), were associated with a higher risk of death [13]. In our study the PaO2 / FiO2 was quantified in all patients when they arrived at the emergency department. The cut-off point of less than or equal to 200 had a prognostic value of intra-hospital death.

The ventilatory support strategy used in the management of patients of the Clinica Davila cohort followed some of the recommendations given by J. C. Winck, N. Ambrosino and other authors [16, 17]. They suggest using CNAF in cases with mild respiratory failure (PaO2 / FiO2 between 200 and 300) and NIMV alone in patients with moderate respiratory failure (PaO2 / FiO2 between 100 and 200).

The QALY score [8-10] applied to hospitalized patients of our cohort at the cut-off point equal to or less than 15 points identify the patients with the highest risk of death, the calculation of this score has been implemented in the emergency service since March 2020. During the bibliographic review, no references were found to use this tool in COVID-19 patients. However other similar scores such as Charlson index [18] that consider age and similar comorbidities, predict life expectancy at 10 years, it has been use in a similar study [15]. Myocardial injury has been shown to be a common condition among COVID-19 hospitalized patients and has been associated with higher risk of in-hospital mortality in general populations [19, 20]. An Italian study evaluated the clinical outcomes of myocardial injury in patients with and without chronic coronary syndromes and COVID-19, they concluded that High sensitivity T troponin has a significant role in predicting poor outcomes [21]. In our cohort there were a significant difference when comparing the values on admission between survivors and non-survivors at discharge and in the multivariate analysis it maintained its significance compared to other parameters. In the cohort of Clinica Davila, this retrospective analysis showed that age, QALY score, PaO2 / FiO2, ultrasensitive T Troponin and creatinine at the described cut-off points, could be considered simultaneously and give rise to a severity score for COVID-19 patients.
Figure 1. Clínica Davila has 647 beds is the largest private hospital in Chile.

Table 1. Demographic characteristics, symptoms, health insurance and laboratory on admission of patients with positive RT-PCR for SARS CoV-2. Clínica Davila (No. 529).

| Variables                      | Absolute frequency/Average/ Median/ Relative frequency/Standard deviation/RIQ* |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| **Gender**                     |                                                                                |
| Female                         | 238                                                                            | 45.0                                      |
| Male                           | 291                                                                            | 55.0                                      |
| < 18                           | 14                                                                             | 2.6                                       |
| 19 - 39                        | 151                                                                            | 28.5                                      |
| **Age range (years)**          |                                                                                |
| 40 - 49                        | 102                                                                            | 19.3                                      |
| 50 - 59                        | 100                                                                            | 18.9                                      |
| 60 - 69                        | 94                                                                             | 17.8                                      |
| ≥70                            | 68                                                                             | 12.9                                      |
| **BMI**                        |                                                                                |
| < 30                           | 244                                                                            | 46.1                                      |
| ≥29.9                          | 86                                                                             | 16.3                                      |
| **Comorbidities**              |                                                                                |
| Arterial Hypertension          | 171                                                                            | 32.3                                      |
| Diabetes Mellitus              | 98                                                                             | 18.5                                      |
| State health insurance         | 317                                                                            | 59.9                                      |
| **Health Insurance**           |                                                                                |
| Private health                 | 195                                                                            | 36.9                                      |
| Without health insurance       | 17                                                                             | 3.2                                       |
| Symptoms respiratory           | 352                                                                            | 66.5                                      |
| Digestive symptoms, myalgias, and headache | 84 | 15.9                                      |                                           |
| Obstetric gynaecological cause | 35                                                                             | 6.6                                       |
| **Motive for admission**       |                                                                                |
| Other infectious processes      | 23                                                                             | 4.3                                       |
| Non-infectious processes       | 32                                                                             | 6.0                                       |
| New-born                       | 3                                                                              | 0.6                                       |
| Age (years)                    | 49                                                                             | (37–62)                                  |
| QALY ‡ score (points)          | 27.7                                                                           | (16.8–43.7)                               |
| Days with symptoms             | 6                                                                              | (3–8)                                     |
| Days in hospital               | 6.0                                                                            | (3–10)                                    |
| **Conditions**                 |                                                                                |
| PaO₂ / FiO₂ on admission       | 304                                                                            | (231–355)                                 |
| PaO₂ / FiO₂ pre MV§             | 157.7                                                                          | 53.0                                      |
| Ferritin (ng/ml)               | 785                                                                            | (362–1524)                                |
| Double dimer (µg/ml)           | 0.3                                                                            | (0.2–0.6)                                 |
| HS T troponin (ng/L)           | 6.9                                                                            | (4.4–12.5)                                |
| CRP (mg/dl)                    | 7.1                                                                            | (2.9–14.4)                                |
| Procalcitonin (ng/ml)          | 0.1                                                                            | (0.1–0.3)                                 |
| Platelets, × 10⁹/L             | 230                                                                            | (180–295)                                 |
| Leukocytes, × 10⁹/L            | 7.4                                                                            | (5.5–10.5)                                |
| Creatinine (mg%)               | 0.8                                                                            | (0.7–1.0)                                 |

* Interquartile range.
†Body mass index expressed in kg / m².
‡Quality-Adjusted life year.
§ Mechanical Ventilation.
| Category / Variable | Survivors | Non-survivors | Transferred | P value |
|---------------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|---------|
|                     | Absolute frequency | Relative frequency | Absolute frequency | Relative frequency | Absolute frequency | Relative frequency |     |
|                     | Median | IQR* | Median | IQR* | Median | IQR* |     |
| n                   | 448   | 84.7 | 54    | 10.2 | 27    | 5.1 |  
| Median age (IQR), years | 46   | (36–59) | 75.5 | (66–84) | 56 | (39–61) | <.001 |
| QALY† score (points) | 33   | (19.7–44.7) | 4.4 | (2.2–12.3) | 23.7 | (18.2–37.5) | <.001 |
| Days with symptoms | 6     | (3–8) | 5.0 | (3–7) | 7.0 | (5–10) | .80 |
| Days in hospital | 6     | (4–10) | 6.5 | (4–13) | 2.0 | (1–4) | .33 |
| PaO2 / FiO2 on admission | 316 | 47.0 | 127.7 | 62.7 | 103.2 | 46.2 | .09 |
| PaO2 / FiO2 pre- mechanical ventilation | 148.0 | (261–360) | 167 | (80–268) | 212 | (130–291) | <.001 |
| Ferritin (ng/ml) | 764   | (337–1445) | 695 | (399–2176) | 1060 | (546–1875) | .46 |
| Double dimer (µg/ml) | 0.3   | (0.2–0.5) | 0.8 | (0.4–2.0) | 0.3 | (0.2–0.6) | <.001 |
| High-sensitivity T troponin (ng/ml) | 5.8   | (4.1–9.3) | 22.8 | (15.1–44.9) | 7.3 | (5.8–12.5) | <.001 |
| C-reactive protein (mg/dl) | 6.3   | (2.3–13) | 13.9 | (6.7–26.0) | 14.2 | (6.1–24.6) | <.001 |
| Procalcitonin (ng/ml) | 0.1   | (0.1–0.2) | 1.0 | (0.3–1.8) | 0.2 | (0.1–0.5) | <.001 |
| Platelets, × 10^9/L | 230.0 | (183–293) | 229.0 | (152–335) | 229.0 | (162–278) | .675 |
| Leukocytes, × 10^9/L | 7.2   | (5.4–9.8) | 9.8 | (6.5–14.7) | 7.7 | (6.1–11) | <.001 |
| Creatinine (mg%) | 0.8   | (0.7–1.0) | 1.16 | (0.8–1.8) | 0.8 | (0.7–1.1) | <.001 |

* Interquartile range.
† Quality-Adjusted life year (QALY).

Figure 2. Davila Clinic is located in the northern area of Santiago, in the commune of Recoleta.
Table 3. Demographics, characteristics, health insurance, motive for admission and last bed in the hospital, according to discharge condition.

| Categories / Variable | Survivors | Non-survivors | Transferred | P value |
|-----------------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|---------|
|                       | Absolute frequency | Relative frequency | Absolute frequency | Relative frequency | Absolute frequency | Relative frequency |
| Sex                   | 205       | 45.8          | 24          | 44.4     | 9          | 33.3         | .45        |
| Male                  | 243       | 54.2          | 30          | 55.6     | 18         | 66.7         |           |
| Age range             | < 18      | 14            | 3.1         | 0        | 0.0        | 0.0          |           |
|                       | 19 - 39   | 141           | 31.5        | 3        | 5.6        | 7            | 25.9       |
|                       | 40 - 49   | 97            | 21.7        | 2        | 3.7        | 3            | 11.1       |
|                       | 50 - 59   | 87            | 19.4        | 4        | 7.4        | 9            | 33.3       |
|                       | 60 - 69   | 81            | 18.1        | 8        | 14.8       | 5            | 18.5       |
|                       | 70 or more| 28            | 6.3         | 37       | 68.5       | 3            | 11.1       |
| BMI*                  | < 30      | 214           | 47.8        | 20       | 37.0       | 10           | 37.0       |
|                       | > 29.9    | 71            | 15.8        | 9        | 16.7       | 6            | 22.2       |
| Health insurance      | State health insurance | 255       | 56.9        | 42       | 77.8       | 20           | 74.1       |
|                       | Private health insurance | 183       | 40.8        | 10       | 18.5       | 2            | 7.4        | .001      |
| Preventive measures   | Without insurance | 10          | 2.2         | 2        | 3.7        | 5            | 18.5       |
| Motive for admission  | Digestive symptoms, myalgias, and headache | 35         | 7.8         | 0        | 0.0        | 0            | 0.0        |
|                       | Obstetric and gynecological cause | 22         | 4.9         | 1        | 1.9        | 0            | 0.0        |
|                       | Other infectious processes | 28         | 6.3         | 4        | 7.4        | 0            | 0.0        |
|                       | Non-infectious processes | 3          | 0.7         | 0        | 0.0        | 0            | 0.0        |
|                       | Basic bed | 441           | 98.4        | 25       | 46.3       | 7            | 25.9       |
|                       | Medium complexity bed | 4          | 0.9         | 6        | 11.1       | 2            | 7.4        |
|                       | UCI       | 0             | 0.0         | 16       | 29.6       | 16           | 59.3       |
|                       | UTI†      | 3             | 0.7         | 7        | 13.0       | 2            | 7.4        |

*Body mass index  
†Intermediate Care Unit

Table 4. Univariate and multivariate logistic analysis of categorized variables.

| Variables at admission | Univariate analysis | Multivariate analysis |
|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
|                        | OR                  | valor p IC-95%       | OR                  |
|                        |                     |                     |                     |
| Condition              |                     |                     |                     |
| Age (≥ 60 years vs. < 60 years) | 15.29 | 0.001 | 7.25 | 32.24 | - | - |
| QALY* score (≤ 15 vs. > 15 points) | 24.63 | 0.001 | 11.86 | 51.16 | 14.01 | 0.001 | 4.83 | 40.68 |
| PaO2 / FiO2 on admission. (≤ 200 vs. > 200) | 11.6 | 0.001 | 5.87 | 22.94 | 5.21 | 0.001 | 1.94 | 13.95 |
| Ferritin (≥ 1000 vs. < 1000 ng/ml) | 1.12 | 0.73 | 0.58 | 2.17 | |
| Double dimer (≥ 1 vs. < 1 µg/ml) | 4.65 | 0.001 | 2.4 | 9.01 | 1.73 | 0.34 | 0.55 | 5.41 |
| LaboratoryHigh-sensitivity T troponin (≥ 15 vs. <15 ng/ml) | 22.29 | 0.001 | 10.43 | 47.65 | 5.16 | 0.001 | 1.95 | 13.65 |
| C-reactive protein. (≥ 8.2 vs. ≥ 8.2 mg/dl) | 3.01 | 0.001 | 1.62 | 5.57 | |
| Procalcitonina (≥ 0.5 vs. < 0.5 mg/l) | 12.55 | 0.001 | 2.73 | 57.65 | |
| Creatinine (≥ 1.4 vs. ≤ 1.4 mg%) | 14.33 | 0.001 | 6.83 | 30.05 | |

* Quality-Adjusted life year (QALY).

5. Strengths and Limitations

The strengths of this study were that it included Chilean population belonging to the two existing health systems, all patients were subjected to similar laboratory tests on admission and their management was governed by an operational committee that analyzed daily the flow of patients according to severity. Weaknesses were that due condition of severity of patients, the need for isolation as a very contagious disease, and the absence of relatives during their hospitalization may have weakened the complete collection of data referring to habits, and we did not report the final condition of 27 patients transferred to other centers.

6. Conclusions

These retrospective cohort, showed the demographics, clinics and laboratory characteristics on admission and their prognostic value in sequentially hospitalized patients with a positive RT-PCR test for SARS CoV-2 in a private hospital in the northern area of Santiago. In these 12 weeks were applied the indications that were released from the health authority and support therapies according to the severity of the patients, they were managed and hospitalized regardless of their health insurance. It was a useful description of a significant number of patients and their evolution, in addition the resulting variables at the cut-off points described, age ≥ 60 years, the burden of prior diseases and age expressed in the QALY ≤ 15, the moderate to severe respiratory compromise on admission quantified by PaO2 / FiO2 ≤ 200, the degree of myocardial injury measure through an Ultra-sensitive T troponin ≥ 15 ng/ml and impaired kidney function present on admission and quantified through a creatinine > 1.4 mg%. All the variables analyzed could contribute to other centers for
decision-making or the design of gravity scales.

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