Prevalence of underlying diseases in died cases of COVID-19: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Fatemeh Javanmardi¹, Abdolkhaleh Keshavarzi², Ali Akbari³, Amir Emami¹*, Neda Pirbonyeh¹

¹ Microbiology Department, Burn and Wound Healing Research Center, Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran, ² Surgery Department, General Surgery, Burn and Wound Healing Research Center, Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran, ³ Department of Anesthesiology, School of Medicine, Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran

* Emami.microbia@gmail.com

Abstract

Introduction
Underlying disease have a critical role in vulnerability of populations for a greater morbidity and mortality when they suffer from COVID-19. The aim of current study is evaluating the prevalence of underlying disease in died people with COVID-19.

Methods
The current study have been conducted according to PRISMA guideline. International database including PubMed, Scopus, Web of Science, Cochrane and google scholar were searched for relevant studies up to 1 June. All relevant articles that reported underlying disease in died cases of COVID-19 were included in the analysis.

Results
After screening and excluding duplicated and irrelevant studies, 32 articles included in the analysis. The most prevalent comorbidities were hypertension, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, liver disease, lung disease, malignancy, cerebrovascular disease, COPD and asthma. Among all reported underlying disease, highest and lowest prevalence was related to hypertension and asthma which were estimated 46% (37% - 55%) and 3% (2%- 6%), respectively.

Conclusion
In summary, underlying disease have a critical role in poor outcomes, severity of disease and high mortality rate of COVID-19 cases. Patients with hypertension, cardiovascular disease and diabetes should be carefully monitored and be aware of health protocols.
**Introduction**

The year 2020 began with a global pandemic, caused by SARS-CoV-2, a highly contagious novel virus which lead a big health challenge in the world. During less than 9 months, COVID-19 influence on more than 20,000,000 million people and causes 740,000 deaths till now (12 August) [1]. Although majority of cases are in mild and moderate and even with no symptoms, but for some infected individuals, the incidence of disease is along with serious complications such as severe pneumonia, acute respiratory distress, multi organ failure and finally death [2]. Nowadays a well-known reason for death is SARS-CoV-2, although there is no accurate information about mortality rate; especially it varies in different countries and reported between 1.4% to 4.3% [3]. According to literature studies, the basic reason for death related to COVID-19 was introduced pneumonia; more over it was found that pre-existing morbidities are significantly increase the related mortality rate [4]. Another important factor increasing the risk of mortality in this crisis is the distance between the incidence of disease and hospitalization. According to different reports, time range of symptoms progress in COVID-19 death is between 6 to 41 days [5]. Further comparative analysis have been revealed that sever form of SARS-CoV-2 may appear in older people which is similar to other respiratory infections such as influenza, severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), and Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) [6]. Since SARS-CoV-2 is a novel virus, little information and majority of uncertainties are present about mechanism of disease which is created a serious threat for infected cases. Basic analysis about the cause of death have shown critical evidences about the impact of underlying diseases on death related to COVID-19 [4, 7]. In fact, these patients have been identified as particularly vulnerable populations for a greater morbidity and mortality when they suffer from COVID-19. In the current emergency outbreak related to COVID-19, due to the majority of uncertain data around the world, and the lack of certain treatment and vaccine for this infection, it is the time of investigation and research. Based on evidences, this information will undoubtedly be key to the knowledge and control of mortality in times of this pandemic. So, the aim of current study is designed to evaluating the prevalence of underlying diseases in died people with COVID-19.

**Methods**

**Search strategy**

The current study have been conducted according to Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) guideline and is registered in PROSPERO (CRD42020186617) in 29 June 2020.

International database including PubMed, Scopus, Web of Science, Cochrane and google scholar were searched for relevant studies up to first June. Search strategy were done based on Mesh keywords as follow: “fatality AND COVID-19”, OR “died AND COVID-19”, OR “death AND COVID-19”, “deceased AND COVID-19” and “mortality AND COVID-19”. S1 Table in S1 File is provided the Mesh terms in detail. Further evaluation was carried out in reference of proper articles for more papers. Search terms were restricted to English language, but due to high number of articles in Chinese language, abstracted were assessed in these studies.

**Inclusion and exclusion criteria**

Two authors (F.J and A.E) independently evaluated the studies and in case of disagreement the third author decide about it. Included criteria were defined as follow: any articles about death related to COVID-19, studies which reported underlying diseases in died patients. Articles in
preprint status and with inappropriate information were excluded from the analysis process. Quality assessment were conducted by Newcastle Ottawa Scale and the related results have been provided in S2 Table in S1 File [8]. Moreover, characteristics of included studies are shown in Table 1.

### Statistical analysis

Pooled prevalence with 95% confidence Interval were estimated by applying inverse-variance weighted method. Evaluation for heterogeneity was done based on Higgins $I^2$ and Cochrane Q statistics. Heterogeneity was defined as low ($I^2<25\%$), high ($I^2>50\%$) and moderate (25–50%). In case of high heterogeneity, random effect model was used. Publication bias were assessed by funnel plot and Egger’s test. Statistical analysis was conducted by STATA 13. P-value less than 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

Table 1. Characteristics of included studies in meta-analysis.

| Authors                        | Number of Death | Hypertension | Diabetes | Heart diseases | Kidney diseases | COPD | Malignancy | Liver disease | Lung Disease | Cerebrovascular |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|----------------|-----------------|------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Fan Yang, et al [9]            | 92              | 51           | 13       | 16             | 2               | 1    | 4           | 3             | 10           |                 |
| Qiurong Ruan, et al [10]       | 68              |              |          |                |                 |      |             |               |              |                 |
| Mark M. Alipio, et al [11]     | 50              | 34           | 23       |                |                 |      |             |               |              |                 |
| Jianfeng Xie, et al [12]       | 168             | 84           | 42       | 31             |                 |      |             |               |              |                 |
| Wei-jie Guan, et al [13]       | 50              |              |          |                |                 | 6    |             |               |              |                 |
| Francesco Violi, et al [14]    | 64              | 39           | 16       | 13             |                 |      |             |               |              |                 |
| Amir Emami, et al [15]         | 87              | 17           | 27       | 23             | 8               | 4    | 10          |               |              |                 |
| Reza Shahriarirad, et al [16]  | 9               | 2            | 2        | 2              |                 |      |             |               |              |                 |
| Mohammad Nikpouraghdam, et al [17] | 239          | 8            | 11       | 4              | 3               | 1    |             |               |              |                 |
| Yan Deng, et al [18]           | 109             | 40           | 17       | 13             |                 |      |             |               |              |                 |
| Yongli Yan, et al [19]         | 108             | 57           | 39       | 27             |                 |      |             |               |              |                 |
| Graziano Onder, et al [20]     | 355             | 126          | 117      |                |                 |      |             |               |              |                 |
| Marcello Covino, et al [21]    | 23              | 10           | 2        |                | 4               | 1    |             |               |              |                 |
| Xun Li, et al [22]             | 25              | 16           | 10       | 8              | 5               | 2    | 2           |               |              |                 |
| Mingli Yuan, et al [23]        | 10              | 5            | 6        | 3              |                 |      |             |               |              |                 |
| Fei Zhou, et al [24]           | 54              | 26           | 17       | 13             | 2               | 4    |             |               |              |                 |
| Jianlei Cao, et al [25]        | 17              | 11           | 6        | 3              | 3               | 1    | 1           |               |              |                 |
| Jianbo Tian, et al [26]        | 46              |              |          |                |                 |      |             |               |              |                 |
| Lang Wang, et al [27]          | 65              | 32           | 11       | 21             | 4               | 11   | 3           | 1             | 10           |                 |
| Chaomin Wu, et al [28]         | 44              | 16           | 11       | 4              |                 |      |             |               |              |                 |
| Rong-Hui Du, et al [29]        | 21              | 13           | 6        | 12             |                 |      |             |               |              |                 |
| Bicheng Zhang, et al [30]      | 82              | 46           | 15       | 17             | 4               | 12   | 6           | 2             | 10           |                 |
| Kunyu Yang, et al [31]         | 40              | 11           | 2        |                |                 |      |             |               |              |                 |
| Yingzhen Du, et al [32]        | 85              | 58           | 32       | 10             | 3               | 2    | 6           | 7             | 7            |                 |
| Chaomin Wu, et al [33]         | 44              | 16           | 11       | 4              |                 |      |             |               |              |                 |
| CDC Korea [34]                 | 66              | 30           | 23       | 10             | 5               |      |             |               |              |                 |
| Yifei Chen, et al [35]         | 38              | 15           | 11       | 4              |                 | 1    | 1           |               |              |                 |
| Ya-Jun Sun, et al [36]         | 100             | 41           | 29       | 27             |                 |      |             |               |              |                 |
| Junli Li, et al [37]           | 14              | 10           | 3        | 4              |                 |      |             |               |              |                 |
| Yiguang Chen, et al [38]       | 50              | 17           | 13       |                |                 |      |             |               |              |                 |
| Lei Chen, et al [39]           | 208             | 104          | 59       | 63             | 20              | 12   | 17          |               |              |                 |

https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0241265.t001
Results

According to initial search, a total of 6507 articles were found in different databases. After screening and excluding duplicated and irrelevant studies, finally 32 articles met the inclusion criteria and considered in the analysis (Fig 1).

Through the current meta-analysis, 28 studies reported the incidence of COVID-19 in hypertensive patients. Among all reported underlying diseases, the highest prevalence was related to hypertension which was estimated 46% (37% - 55%) (Fig 2). Significant and high heterogeneity was observed between studies ($I^2 = 92.84\%$, $P < 0.001$). Although publication bias was observed based on funnel plot in S1 Fig in S2 File and Egger test ($t = 3.19$, $p = 0.004$).

The overall prevalence of diabetic comorbidities estimated 26% (21%-31%) in fatal cases of COVID-19 (Fig 3). High and significant heterogeneity between 29 studies cause to use random effect model. Egger's test is indicating publication bias ($t = 3.75$, $P = 0.001$), also funnel plot in S2 Fig in S2 File is confirming this bias.

In order to estimate cardiovascular prevalence as an important underlying comorbidity, 27 articles were pooled and it was found 21% (16% - 27%) of fatal cases had this disease (Fig 4). High and significant heterogeneity was seen among included studies ($I^2 = 88.67\%$, $P < 0.001$). Publication bias was confirmed by funnel plot and Egger’s test ($t = 3.75$, $P = 0.001$). S3 Fig in S2 File is shown these results. In order to conduct sensitivity analysis, two studies were excluded; but no significant changes had seen.

Pooled prevalence of kidney disease among death individuals with SARS-CoV-2 infection was estimated 7% (3% - 11%) (Fig 5). In random effect analysis significant heterogeneity was observed among the prevalence estimates of disease ($I^2 = 82.89\%$, $P < 0.001$). The funnel plot of this analysis in S4 Fig in S2 File is not shown highly under reporting or publication bias ($t = -0.62$, $P = 0.54$).

The random effect meta-analysis revealed a pooled estimated of 8% (4%- 13%) for prevalence of COPD in COVID-19 died cases (Fig 6); however high heterogeneity was also a concern ($I^2 = 74.19\%$, $P < 0.001$). Systemic pattern of funnel plot in S5 Fig is not shown publication bias, also these results were confirmed by Egger’s test ($t = 0.51$, $p = 0.62$).

Fig 1. PRISMA flow chart of the systematic literature review and article identification.

https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0241265.g001
In order to evaluate pooled prevalence of malignancy in died cases of COVID-19, random effect analysis was done and the estimation 11% (4%-20%) was obtained with high and significant heterogeneity ($I^2 = 95.82, P<0.001$) which is shown in Fig 7. Sensitivity analysis reduce this estimation to 6% (3%-10%) and $I^2 = 85.59%$ based on excluding Jianbo Tian’s paper.

Based on fixed effect analysis, the forest plot drawn in Fig 8, and the pooled prevalence of liver disease in died cases related to COVID-19 was estimated 3% (2%- 6%) (Fig 8). Moreover, no publication bias was seen based on funnel plot and Egger’s test ($t = 0.57, p = 0.60, S7$ Fig in S2 File).

![Fig 2. Prevalence of hypertension among died patients with COVID-19.](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0241265.g002)

![Fig 3. Prevalence of diabetes among died patients with COVID-19.](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0241265.g003)
Lung disease as another one underlying disease were prevalent in died cases with SARS-CoV-2 infection. The pooled prevalence was 11% with confidence interval 95% (6% -18%) which is shown in Fig 9.

Heterogeneity was high between 4 included studies ($I^2 = 62.45\% \ P<0.001$), but no publication was seen based on Egger’s test and funnel plot ($t = 1.26, \ P = 0.33, S8 \text{ Fig in S2 File}$).

Just two studies reported died cases from asthma with COVID-19. The combined results were estimated 9% (2%-19%).

By using the data from 13 included articles and fixed effect analysis, the prevalence of died cases with SARS-CoV-2 and cerebrovascular disease was estimated 12% (9%-15%). The related
Based on funnel plot and Egger’s test, no publication bias was observed for these studies (t = 1.38, p = 0.19; S9 Fig in S2 File).

Discussion

As pandemic progress, daily increase in active cases death related to SARS-CoV-2 infection become a global concern. Rapid distribution of COVID-19 all over the world, created a significant burden for health care systems. Various reasons like insufficient resources for several
cases, prolong incubation time and the most important one; presence of comorbidities are known to be associated with high mortality rate [40, 41].

In the current study, we have conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis to identify the most prevalence underlying diseases in died cases related to SARS-CoV-2 infection. According to various published reports, it is proven that underlying diseases are associated with increased poor outcomes [5, 42]. Based on our results, the most hazardous comorbidities in fatal cases were hypertension, diabetes and cardiovascular diseases, respectively. Although the mechanism and severity of diseases and their poor outcome are unclear, but some reasons may justify this event. One of the possible explanations about high mortality in hypertensive cases, prolong incubation time and the most important one; presence of comorbidities are known to be associated with high mortality rate [40, 41].

In the current study, we have conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis to identify the most prevalence underlying diseases in died cases related to SARS-CoV-2 infection. According to various published reports, it is proven that underlying diseases are associated with increased poor outcomes [5, 42]. Based on our results, the most hazardous comorbidities in fatal cases were hypertension, diabetes and cardiovascular diseases, respectively. Although the mechanism and severity of diseases and their poor outcome are unclear, but some reasons may justify this event. One of the possible explanations about high mortality in hypertensive cases, prolong incubation time and the most important one; presence of comorbidities are known to be associated with high mortality rate [40, 41].

In the current study, we have conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis to identify the most prevalence underlying diseases in died cases related to SARS-CoV-2 infection. According to various published reports, it is proven that underlying diseases are associated with increased poor outcomes [5, 42]. Based on our results, the most hazardous comorbidities in fatal cases were hypertension, diabetes and cardiovascular diseases, respectively. Although the mechanism and severity of diseases and their poor outcome are unclear, but some reasons may justify this event. One of the possible explanations about high mortality in hypertensive cases, prolong incubation time and the most important one; presence of comorbidities are known to be associated with high mortality rate [40, 41].

In the current study, we have conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis to identify the most prevalence underlying diseases in died cases related to SARS-CoV-2 infection. According to various published reports, it is proven that underlying diseases are associated with increased poor outcomes [5, 42]. Based on our results, the most hazardous comorbidities in fatal cases were hypertension, diabetes and cardiovascular diseases, respectively. Although the mechanism and severity of diseases and their poor outcome are unclear, but some reasons may justify this event. One of the possible explanations about high mortality in hypertensive cases, prolong incubation time and the most important one; presence of comorbidities are known to be associated with high mortality rate [40, 41].

In the current study, we have conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis to identify the most prevalence underlying diseases in died cases related to SARS-CoV-2 infection. According to various published reports, it is proven that underlying diseases are associated with increased poor outcomes [5, 42]. Based on our results, the most hazardous comorbidities in fatal cases were hypertension, diabetes and cardiovascular diseases, respectively. Although the mechanism and severity of diseases and their poor outcome are unclear, but some reasons may justify this event. One of the possible explanations about high mortality in hypertensive cases, prolong incubation time and the most important one; presence of comorbidities are known to be associated with high mortality rate [40, 41].

In the current study, we have conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis to identify the most prevalence underlying diseases in died cases related to SARS-CoV-2 infection. According to various published reports, it is proven that underlying diseases are associated with increased poor outcomes [5, 42]. Based on our results, the most hazardous comorbidities in fatal cases were hypertension, diabetes and cardiovascular diseases, respectively. Although the mechanism and severity of diseases and their poor outcome are unclear, but some reasons may justify this event. One of the possible explanations about high mortality in hypertensive cases, prolong incubation time and the most important one; presence of comorbidities are known to be associated with high mortality rate [40, 41].

In the current study, we have conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis to identify the most prevalence underlying diseases in died cases related to SARS-CoV-2 infection. According to various published reports, it is proven that underlying diseases are associated with increased poor outcomes [5, 42]. Based on our results, the most hazardous comorbidities in fatal cases were hypertension, diabetes and cardiovascular diseases, respectively. Although the mechanism and severity of diseases and their poor outcome are unclear, but some reasons may justify this event. One of the possible explanations about high mortality in hypertensive cases, prolong incubation time and the most important one; presence of comorbidities are known to be associated with high mortality rate [40, 41].
and cardiac patients may be the function of ACE2 which may derive pulmonary hypertension and cardiovascular complications [43]. ACE2 has a critical role in immune and cardiovascular pathways. Since SARS-CoV-2 enter the cell and bind the ACE2 receptors, it is a major concern that may increase the risk of detrimental outcomes conferred by ACE inhibitors or ARBs [44–46]. Moreover, it is mentioned that morphologic and hemodynamic damage to heart tissues causes poor diagnosis in patients with COVID-19 and acute coronary syndrome [47].

Another important risk factor in fatal cases was diabetes. In order to justify the high prevalence of diabetic in fatal cases, it is suggested to evaluate the effect of SARS-CoV-2 on blood glucose which may related to ACE2. In previous SARS pandemic, it was found SARS-CoV-1, could cause hyperglycemia in people with no history of diabetes and it would persist almost 3 years after recovery and revealed temporary damage to beta cells [48]. It is suggested to follow blood glucose level in SARS-CoV-2 cases in acute stage. In other hands, the effect of anti-diabetic effect should not be ignored [49]. Increasing ACE2 expression and its relevance to COVID-19, causes that some researchers avoid or change some drugs (Thiazolidinedione) in these cases. However, impact of anti-diabetic drugs and their effects need more evaluation and researches to be clear [50].

Various studies about SARS-CoV-2 infection have shown patients with Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) are vulnerable to be infected and become sever, since this novel virus enters the human body through ACE2 [51]. On the other hands, it has been documented that ACE2 expressions is high in kidney tissue either; so if patients with CKD become infected with SARS-CoV-2, their renal tubules maybe attacked in the first stage of infection. Moreover, SARS-CoV-2 may target the small arteries and capillaries in kidney, which in patients with history of CKD, this may cause rather impairment. Due to these reasons sever patients with CKD which need dialysis are more susceptible to the infection [41].

COVID-19 in malignant cases increase the risk of sever events and poor progress of disease. Chemotherapy, surgery, and treatment strategies cause these patients to become an immunosuppressed population and vulnerable from the risk of infection [52].

Although the impact of SARS-CoV-2 in patients with liver disease or liver transplant is unclear, but due to the main viral receptor (ACE2) possible involvement of the liver and weak immune system, causes these patients to be more at risk of death in counterpart healthy
individuals. According to the date of searches for the current study, there was not found any publication about acute chronic liver failure due to COVID-19.

Shortness of breath and cough are two symptoms which is seen in asthma patients and is seen in the COVID-19 cases, too. Based on the current analysis, 9% of fatal cases related to COVID-19 had history of asthma. There is no certain reason about the relation between mortality and asthma in patients with SARS-CoV-2 infection, but it recommended that nebulization should be avoided; since medical procedures may increase the risk of infection transmission [53].

According to the current results in this meta-analysis, 8% of patients with COPD comorbidities are in danger of rapid disease progression than their counterpart without COPD. In another systematic review which prevalence, severity and mortality associated with COPD and smoking in patients with COVID-19 were evaluated, it was found that the crude case fatality rate was 7.4% [54]. Also it was declared that this high mortality rate may be due to some coexisting of other comorbidities in these groups of patients [55].

Overall, it seems that drugs which used in underlying diseases aggravate COVID-19. In fact, corticosteroids, NSAIDS and some drugs acting on the renin-angiotensin system during the current pandemic which is in question and uncertainties [56]. Clinical impact of these treatments on COVID-19 infection needs more evaluation and should be clarified. Of limitation of current study could say high heterogeneity between studies in population and genetic limitation which most of the studies were from China.

Conclusion
In summary, underlying diseases have a critical role in poor outcomes, severity of disease and high mortality rate related to COVID-19 cases. Patients with hypertension, cardiovascular disease and diabetes should be carefully monitored and be aware of health protocols.

Supporting information
S1 File. Search terms and quality assessment tables.
(DOCX)

S2 File. Funnel plot for publication bias assessment.
(DOCX)

S1 Checklist. PRISMA 2009 checklist.
(DOC)

Author Contributions
Conceptualization: Fatemeh Javanmardi.
Data curation: Fatemeh Javanmardi, Amir Emami.
Formal analysis: Fatemeh Javanmardi.
Methodology: Amir Emami.
Project administration: Amir Emami.
Visualization: Ali Akbari, Neda Pirbonyeh.
Writing – original draft: Fatemeh Javanmardi, Amir Emami.
Writing – review & editing: Abdolkhalegh Keshavarzi, Amir Emami.
References

1. Lemmens K.M., Nieboer A.P. and Huijsman R., A systematic review of integrated use of disease-management interventions in asthma and COPD. Respiratory medicine, 2009. 103(5): p. 670–691. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rmed.2008.11.017 PMID: 19155168

2. Durrheim D.N. and Baker M.G., COVID-19—a very visible pandemic. The Lancet, 2020. 396(10248): p. e17.

3. Gaye B., Fanidi A. and Jouven X., Denominator matters in estimating COVID-19 mortality rates. European Heart Journal, 2020.

4. Emami A., et al., Prevalence of Underlying Diseases in Hospitalized Patients with COVID-19: a Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. Archives of Academic Emergency Medicine, 2020. 8(1).

5. Jordan R.E., Adab P. and Cheng K., Covid-19: risk factors for severe disease and death. 2020, British Medical Journal Publishing Group.

6. Meo S., et al., Novel coronavirus 2019-nCoV: prevalence, biological and clinical characteristics comparison with SARS-CoV and MERS-CoV. Eur Rev Med Pharmacol Sci, 2020. 24(4): p. 2012–2019. https://doi.org/10.26355/eurrev_202002_20379 PMID: 32141570

7. Clark A., et al., Global, regional and national estimates of the population at increased risk of severe COVID-19 due to underlying health conditions in 2020: a modelling study. The Lancet Global Health, 2020.

8. Margulis A.V., et al., Quality assessment of observational studies in a drug-safety systematic review, comparison of two tools: the Newcastle–Ottawa scale and the RTI item bank. Clinical epidemiology, 2014. 6: p. 359. https://doi.org/10.2147/CLEP.S66677 PMID: 25336990

9. Yang F., et al., Analysis of 92 deceased patients with COVID-19. Journal of medical virology, 2020.

10. Ruan Q., et al., Clinical predictors of mortality due to COVID-19 based on an analysis of data of 150 patients from Wuhan, China. Intensive care medicine, 2020. 46(5): p. 846–848. https://doi.org/10.1007/s00134-020-05991-x PMID: 32125452

11. Alipio, M., Epidemiology and Clinical Characteristics of 50 Death Cases with COVID-19 in the Philippines: A Retrospective Review. Available at SSRN 3570612, 2020.

12. Xie J., et al., Clinical characteristics of patients who died of coronavirus disease 2019 in China. JAMA network open, 2020. 3(4): p. e205619–e205619. https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2020.5619 PMID: 32275319

13. Guan W.-j., et al., Comorbidity and its impact on 1590 patients with Covid-19 in China: A Nationwide Analysis. European Respiratory Journal, 2020. 55(5).

14. Violi F., et al., IS ALBUMIN A PREDICTOR OF MORTALITY IN COVID-19? Antioxidants and Redox Signaling, 2020(ja).

15. Emami A., et al., Characteristics of deceased patients with CoVID-19 after the first peak of the epidemic in Fars province, Iran. Infection Ecology & Epidemiology, 2020. 10(1): p. 1781330.

16. Shahriari Rad R., et al., Epidemiological and clinical features of 2019 novel coronavirus diseases (COVID-19) in the South of Iran. BMC Infectious Diseases, 2020. 20(1): p. 427. https://doi.org/10.1186/s12879-020-05128-x PMID: 32552751

17. Niajavand M., et al., Epidemiological characteristics of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) patients in Iran: A single center study. Journal of clinical virology: the official publication of the Pan American Society for Clinical Virology, 2020. 127: p. 104378–104378.

18. Deng Y., et al., Clinical characteristics of fatal and recovered cases of coronavirus disease 2019 in Wuhan, China: a retrospective study. Chin Med J (Engl), 2020. 133(11): p. 1261–1267.

19. Yan Y., et al., Clinical characteristics and outcomes of patients with severe covid-19 with diabetes. BMJ Open Diabetes Research & Care, 2020. 8(1): p. e001343.

20. Onder G., Rezza G. and Brusaferr S., Case-Fatality Rate and Characteristics of Patients Dying in Relation to COVID-19 in Italy. JAMA, 2020. 323(18): p. 1775–1776. https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.2020.4683 PMID: 32203977

21. Covino M., et al., Clinical characteristics and prognostic factors in COVID-19 patients aged ≥ 80 years. Geriatrics & Gerontology International, 2020.

22. Li X., et al., Clinical characteristics of 25 death cases with COVID-19: a retrospective review of medical records in a single medical center, Wuhan, China. International Journal of Infectious Diseases, 2020.

23. Yuan M., et al., Association of radiologic findings with mortality of patients infected with 2019 novel coronavirus in Wuhan, China. PloS one, 2020. 15(3): p. e0230548. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0230548 PMID: 32191764

24. Zhou F., et al., Clinical course and risk factors for mortality of adult inpatients with COVID-19 in Wuhan, China: a retrospective cohort study. The lancet, 2020.
25. Jianlei C., et al., Clinical Features and Short-term Outcomes of 102 Patients with Corona Virus Disease 2019 in Wuhan, China. Clin. Infect. Dis., undefined (undefined), undefined. 2020. 10.
26. Tian J., et al., Clinical characteristics and risk factors associated with COVID-19 disease severity in patients with cancer in Wuhan, China: a multicentre, retrospective cohort study. The Lancet Oncology, 2020.
27. Wang L., et al., Coronavirus disease 2019 in elderly patients: Characteristics and prognostic factors based on 4-week follow-up. Journal of Infection, 2020.
28. Wu C., et al., Risk factors associated with acute respiratory distress syndrome and death in patients with coronavirus disease 2019 pneumonia in Wuhan, China. JAMA internal medicine, 2020.
29. Du R.-H., et al., Predictors of mortality for patients with COVID-19 pneumonia caused by SARS-CoV-2: a prospective cohort study. European Respiratory Journal, 2020. 55(5).
30. Zhang B., et al., Clinical characteristics of 82 cases of death from COVID-19. 2020. 15(7): p. e0235458.
31. Yang K., et al., Clinical characteristics, outcomes and risk factors for mortality in patients with cancer and COVID-19 in Hubei, China: a multicentre, retrospective, cohort study. Lancet Oncol, 2020. 21(7): p. 904–913. https://doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045(20)30310-7 PMID: 32479787
32. Du Y. and Tu L., Clinical Features of 85 Fatal Cases of COVID-19 from Wuhan. A Retrospective Observational Study. 2020. 201(11): p. 1372–1379.
33. Yang K., et al., Clinical characteristics, outcomes and risk factors for mortality in patients with cancer and COVID-19 in Hubei, China: a multicentre, retrospective, cohort study. Lancet Oncol, 2020. 21(7): p. 904–913. https://doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045(20)30310-7 PMID: 32479787
34. Du Y. and Tu L., Clinical Features of 85 Fatal Cases of COVID-19 from Wuhan. A Retrospective Observational Study. 2020. 201(11): p. 1372–1379.
35. Wu C., et al., Risk Factors Associated With Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome and Death in Patients With Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pneumonia in Wuhan, China. JAMA Internal Medicine, 2020. 180(7): p. 934–943. https://doi.org/10.1001/jamainternmed.2020.0994 PMID: 32167524
36. Choe Y.J., Coronavirus disease-19: The First 7,755 Cases in the Republic of Korea. medRxiv, 2020.
37. Chen Y., et al., Epidemiological analysis of the early 38 fatalities in Hubei, China, of the coronavirus disease 2019. Journal of global health, 2020. 10(1): p. 011004–011004. https://doi.org/10.7189/jogh-10-011004 PMID: 32373340
38. Li J., et al., Clinical characteristics and outcomes of 74 patients with severe or critical COVID-19. The American Journal of the Medical Sciences, 2020.
39. Chen Y., et al., Impact of fundamental diseases on patients with COVID-19. Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness, 2020: p. 1–15.
40. Chen L., et al., Risk factors for death in 1859 subjects with COVID-19. Leukemia, 2020. 34(8): p. 2173–2183. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41375-020-0911-0 PMID: 32546725
41. Esakandari H., et al., A comprehensive review of COVID-19 characteristics. Biological Procedures Online, 2020. 22(1): p. 1–10.
42. Rabb H., Kidney diseases in the time of COVID-19: major challenges to patient care. The Journal of Clinical Investigation, 2020. 130(6): p. 2749–2751. https://doi.org/10.1172/JCI138871 PMID: 32250968
43. Preliminary Estimates of the Prevalence of Selected Underlying Health Conditions Among Patients with Coronavirus Disease 2019—United States, February 12-March 28, 2020. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep, 2020. 69(13): p. 382–386. https://doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6913e2 PMID: 32240123
44. Emarni A., et al., Survival rate in hypertensive patients with COVID-19. Clinical and Experimental Hypertension, 2020: p. 1–4.
45. Zhou X., Zhu J. and Xu T., Clinical characteristics of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) patients with hypertension on renin–angiotensin system inhibitors. Clinical and Experimental Hypertension, 2020: p. 1–5.
46. Schiffrin E.L., et al., Hypertension and COVID-19. 2020, Oxford University Press US.
47. Bosso M., et al., The Two Faces of ACE2: The Role of ACE2 Receptor and Its Polymorphisms in Hypertension and COVID-19. Molecular Therapy—Methods & Clinical Development, 2020. 18: p. 321–327.
48. Ielapi N., et al., Cardiovascular disease as a biomarker for an increased risk of COVID-19 infection and related poor prognosis. Biomarkers in medicine, 2020. 14(9): p. 713–716. https://doi.org/10.2217/ bmm-2020-0201 PMID: 32426991
49. Mirabelli M., et al., Potential Benefits and Harms of Novel Antidiabetic Drugs During COVID-19 Crisis. International journal of environmental research and public health, 2020. 17(10): p. 3664.
50. Ursini F., et al., COVID-19 and diabetes: Is metformin a friend or foe? Diabetes research and clinical practice, 2020. 164: p. 108167–108167. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.diabres.2020.108167 PMID: 32339534

51. Hardenberg J.H. and Luft F.C., Covid-19, ACE2 and the kidney. Acta Physiologica, 2020: p. e13539. https://doi.org/10.1111/apha.13539 PMID: 32662161

52. El Amrani M., Truant S. and Turpin A., [COVID 19 and cancer: What are the consequences of the cancer care reorganization?]. Bull Cancer, 2020. 107(5): p. 538–540. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bulcan.2020.04.001 PMID: 32359766

53. Johnston S.L., Asthma and COVID-19: Is asthma a risk factor for severe outcomes? Allergy, 2020. 75(7): p. 1543–1545. https://doi.org/10.1111/all.14348 PMID: 32358994

54. Alqahtani J.S., et al., Prevalence, Severity and Mortality associated with COPD and Smoking in patients with COVID-19: A Rapid Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. PLoS One, 2020. 15(5): p. e0233147. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0233147 PMID: 32392262

55. Sin D.D., et al., Mortality in COPD: Role of comorbidities. Eur Respir J, 2006. 28(6): p. 1245–57. https://doi.org/10.1183/09031936.00133805 PMID: 17138679

56. Back D., et al., COVID-19 treatment in patients with comorbidities: Awareness of drug-drug interactions. British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology. n/a(n/a).