Complication Severity and Its Association with the Treatment Management of COVID-19 Patients in Bangladesh: A Cross-Sectional Study

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1.   Round 1

1.1   Reviewer 1

Date: 15 August 2023

Reviewer:

The introduction provides an adequate overview of the COVID-19 situation globally and in Bangladesh. To strengthen this section, include more detailed statistics on COVID-19 in Bangladesh, emphasizing the uniqueness of the context or challenges faced in treatment management. This will help to underline the importance of your study.

Clarify the specific research gaps your study aims to address. While the association between complication severity and treatment management is mentioned, elaborating on how this study contributes new knowledge or addresses unresolved questions in the literature would enhance the introduction.

Ensure that the literature review is both comprehensive and current, incorporating studies up to the most recent year possible. This is particularly important given the rapidly evolving nature of COVID-19 research. The inclusion of a wide range of sources, including international studies and those specific to South Asia or similar contexts, would be beneficial.

The literature review should not only summarize existing studies but also critically analyze them. Highlight inconsistencies in the findings, methodological limitations, and how your study seeks to build on or address these issues.

Provide a more detailed description of the sample selection process, including any inclusion or exclusion criteria. Detailing the rationale behind the choice of sample size, the sampling technique (if applicable), and any potential biases in sample selection will enhance the robustness of the methodology section.

Clarify the tools and procedures used for data collection, including any questionnaires, interviews, or medical records analysis. If standardized tools were used, discuss their validity and reliability in the context of your study. If new tools were developed, explain the process of their creation and validation.

Expand on the statistical methods used to analyze the data. Include specifics about any software used, the rationale for choosing particular statistical tests, and how data normality or any other assumptions were verified.

Ensure that the results are presented clearly and logically. Use tables and figures to summarize findings efficiently, and make sure each is accompanied by a descriptive caption. Discussing the results in the context of your research questions and hypotheses directly in this section can also aid in clarity.

While presenting statistical results, also discuss their clinical relevance. This will help readers understand the practical implications of your findings.

The discussion should tie back directly to the literature review, comparing and contrasting your findings with previous studies. This includes discussing any discrepancies and offering potential explanations based on the context or methodology.

Elaborate on the public health implications of your findings, especially considering the ongoing management of COVID-19 in Bangladesh and similar settings. Recommendations for policy or treatment protocols based on your findings should be clearly stated.

Provide a more comprehensive discussion of the limitations of your study. This could include sample size, generalizability, potential biases, and limitations in data collection. Clearly outline directions for future research, suggesting specific areas where further studies are needed.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

1.2   *Reviewer 2*

Date: 15 August 2023

Reviewer:

Sharpen the statement of novelty and contribution within the context of Bangladesh's COVID-19 research.

Incorporate the most recent studies to ensure the literature review's relevance and comprehensiveness.

Specify the data collection period to contextualize the study findings within the pandemic's timeline.

Improve or add visual elements to the results section for better clarity and impact.

Ensure the discussion closely aligns with and addresses the study's objectives.

Clearly outline actionable recommendations for clinical practice or public health policy in the conclusion.

Correct minor inconsistencies in formatting and typographical errors for a polished manuscript.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

2.   Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.