Review of: "Study of Variables Related to Cerebrovascular Accident in Patients with COVID-19: A Literature Review"

Vishwa Mohan Katoch[1]

1 Tuberculosis Association of India, New Delhi, India

This review on, "Study of Variables Related to Cerebrovascular Accident in Patients with COVID-19: A Literature Review" by Murilo Mattos de Barros et al addresses the issue of the relationship between Covid-19 and stroke.

i. This is a well-designed and objective analysis of published literature on this aspect, especially between 2019 to 2023. Overall, a well-written and well-analysed presentation.

ii. There is no apparent sample bias in the selection of studies.

iii. While several factors like advanced age, underlying conditions, systemic inflammation, and duration of hospital stay have been observed to be important for a higher risk of CVA, these can only tell us to be more careful – then do what?

iv. Table 1 summarises several primary preventive methods. How commonly were these methods used by various groups? What was the outcome?

v. For drawing meaningful conclusions, we need data across different countries/continents – with additional data about the incidence of stroke in the 2020 versus 2021 waves, the history of repeated attacks of Covid-19 infection, and the effect of vaccination (including different types of vaccination).

Considering the above comments, there is a need to improve the presentation – if data is available in some of these 37 studies, then it should be included and discussed. If not, then an attempt should be made to capture such information and draw meaningful conclusions. It should then be highlighted in the recommendations.