

# Review of: "In Silico Investigation of Potential COVID-19-Associated MicroRNA Signatures"

Kalyan K. Sethi

**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

The manuscript, entitled "In Silico Investigation of Potential COVID-19-Associated MicroRNA Signatures demonstrates a rigorous examination of the integral role microRNAs play in covid responses and host system pathophysiology.

To enhance the manuscript's impact, the following inquiries and suggestions have been presented for the authors' thoughtful consideration and incorporation. Addressing these points will further elevate the scholarly rigor and contribution of this work.

1. In the text the authors present the top 24 ranked genes; however, upon cross-referencing with Figures 1 and 3, it appears that there are 26 and 22 genes shown. Could the authors provide clarification or address this inconsistency in the reporting of the gene count?
2. Please rearrange the presentation of results by reporting the findings from Figure 3 first, followed by those from Figure 4, and avoid the reverse order. Keep the figures in order.
3. In the introduction, it is recommended to include a comprehensive paragraph that delves into miRNA expression studies concerning COVID-19. This discussion should extend beyond the confines of plasma and encompass a broader exploration of miRNA expression patterns in diverse tissues affected by the virus. This addition will provide a more holistic overview of the current state of research in the field, offering insights into the systemic implications of miRNA dysregulation across various tissues in the context of COVID-19.
4. The authors must maintain terminological consistency throughout the manuscript. The author is urged to ensure uniform and precise usage of terminology related to SAR-CoV-2, Coronavirus, and COVID-19, miRNA across all sections of the text.
5. A more in-depth elucidation of Figure 1 is warranted.
6. It is recommended that the authors enhance the quality of the figures, with a particular emphasis on Figure 2, to align them with the publication standards. This may involve improving resolution, adjusting graphical elements for better visibility, and ensuring that the figures adhere to the formatting guidelines of the targeted publication
7. The recommended revisions to the Materials and Methods section and the Results section of the Abstract are essential for enhancing the overall impact and clarity of the manuscript. Furthermore, it is suggested to expand the Keywords to four, ensuring a more comprehensive representation of the key concepts and themes associated with the study.

