

# Review of: "Impact of COVID-19 on imports of medical products: A panel data approach"

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

In this paper, using secondary data, the authors set out to analyze the determinants of the imports of each of the essential medical products by the 27 countries of the European Union (EU-27), for the period 2015-2020. Considering the panel data structure, employing a combination of pooled ordinary least squares (OLS), random effects, and fixed effects models is deemed suitable.

I do have few concerns, which are outlined below:

1. While I think this research is interesting, I noticed that there are some areas where the writing could be improved. The introduction section could be reorganized to better convey the message. Using subheadings can help to organize the section and make it easier for the reader to follow. For example, you could use subheadings like "COVID-19 and international trade" or "International demand for medical supplies and products". In the conclusion section, it would be helpful if the authors could provide a more detailed discussion of the policy implications of the findings. Specifically, it would be beneficial to address how the findings could inform policy decisions and potential interventions to address the issue at hand.
2. The authors need to address the potential endogeneity issue that might complicate the estimation of the proposed model. Therefore, it might be worth checking for simultaneity or reverse causation between imports and GDP.
3. Small sample sizes can be limiting and can affect the generalizability of the results. If it is feasible, I encourage the authors to collect additional data to increase their sample size. If not, the authors need to be transparent about the limitations of their sample size and how it could impact their findings.