

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.

Dear,

This paper tries to investigate the impact of covid-19 on EU imports of medical products by country. The paper was well written. Regretfully, I find that the author only examined the determinants of imports by EU-27 countries, did not do any analysis on the causal relationship between covid-19 and imports. If you really want to prove the causality of covid-19 on import, I have some suggestions and comments as following:

1. The authors missed some import variables in your regressions, such as tariffs exchange rate, etc. which could also affect the bilateral import volumes. You can follow the Gravity model.
2. Change your econometric model, I think Difference-in-difference could fit your research questions.
3. To prove the causality, I think there is still a very long way, but I think the data allows you to do that. So, I suggest you do some deeper analysis using your data.
4. The authors put lots of effects on the summary statistics analysis, but less on the identification strategy and empirical results, and the summary statistics were not very related to the regressions analysis.
5. The authors focus on the medical products imports, I think you should analyze the difference between medical products and other products at least, do covid-19 have different impacts on different products or industries?

Hope my comments are useful to you.