

Review of: "Tocilizumab Plus Corticosteroid in Elderly Patients Hospitalized With COVID-19 Pneumonia: A Retrospective Cohort Study"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Comments for the authors

Please rewrite the following sentences in appropriately:

- "Chi-square statistics and odds of being placed on a ventilator within 28 days, in-hospital mortality, and the improvement in the respiratory status were calculated."
- What was the role of Chi-square statistics?

In the sentence "Patients in the treatment group had 0.9 times the odds of improvement in respiratory status ($p=0.628$)."

just report it like "**there was no statistical difference on improvement in respiratory between----- ($p=0.628$).**"

The sentence in **conclusion section** "*There was no difference in the incidence of mechanical ventilation by day 28 between the patients who were on tocilizumab and those who were not*" is not congruent with what reported in result section of the abstract "The incidence of being placed on a ventilator within 28 days was of 20% and 11% (OR=2.0; $p=0.016$) for the treatment and the comparison groups, respectively."

The conclusion section can be rewritten in appropriate way describing the main findings of the study.

The safety issues should be reported in the result section of the abstract in brief.

Methods

The severity of the illness is important to be reported because it one of the main predictors of mechanical ventilation (MV) and mortality etc.

Result section

The Odds ratio, 1.4; 95% CI, 0.69 to 2.66; $p=0.76$ for MV reported in this section is different from that reported in the abstract.

For the following statement interpretation, use statistical comparison to indicate if the difference is significant or not. You can also use in table "Overall adverse effects occurred in 30.1% of the treatment group and in 8.4% of the comparator group."

Conclusion section

Please rewrite the sentence in corrected way of interpretation with those reported in the result section. I.e. there is significant difference reported in abstract but not significant in result section.