

Review of: "Cross-national associations of IQ and infectious diseases: Is the prevalence of Corona an exceptional case?"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Reading this article was very interesting and informative for me. In my opinion, the different parts of the paper are carefully written and can provide the necessary answers to almost all the mental questions of the reader. Therefore, I appreciate the author(s) for choosing the topic and the accuracy of their analysis. However, I think I faced two problems while studying: First, the findings section with many tables, and the way of reporting the statistical analysis became very tedious. Therefore, I asked myself if it is possible to write the findings more simply. Finally, I realized that presenting the analyses of three different periods in a single text was, in practice, no other than the current composition. But maybe numbers in the table of correlation coefficients could be slightly reduced by presenting the significance level in the form of * or **, which is common in the output of SPSS software.

However, leaving this issue aside, my second point refers to the discussion section. I think the contents presented in this section could not fully explain the interesting statistical results obtained. I think the reader expects to read more about the specific effect of IQ here - which challenges previous findings to some extent - and to encounter more speculation.

Therefore, I must respectfully say that my best advice to the author(s) to improve the article is to pay more attention to the discussion section.

sincerely