

Frequency of Corona Virus Disease-19, its outcome and their predictors among patients with inflammatory bowel disease in emerging economy countries

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Background: On January 7th, 2020, a novel coronavirus, named Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Corona Virus-2 (SARS-CoV-2), led to the current pandemic of Corona Virus Disease-19 (COVID-19), which began in Wuhan city, China, in December 2019. There is limited data on the frequency and outcome of COVID-19 among patients with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) including ulcerative colitis (UC) and Crohn disease (CD). Since IBD patients are often on multiple immunosuppressive drugs including corticosteroids, azathioprine, methotrexate etc. the outcome of COVID-19 may be worse compared to the healthy population. Accordingly, we aimed to study, (a) frequency of COVID-19 among patients with IBD, (b) the outcome of COVID-19 among them, (c) predictors of SARS-CoV-2 infection among the patients with IBD. **Methods:** Patients with IBD will be tested for SARS-CoV-2 ribonucleic acid (RNA) by reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) in naso- and oro-pharyngeal samples. IBD patients diagnosed having COVID-19 will be assessed for its severity by standard methods. Outcome of IBD patients with COVID-19 will be recorded. The demographic, and clinical parameters associated with occurrence of SARS-CoV-2 infection and those predicting the severity and outcome of COVID-19 among IBD patients will be assessed by univariate and multivariate analysis.