

Reply Letter – COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus 2019) – Recent trends

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Dear Editor,

With reference to the comments raised on our article entitled “COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus 2019) – recent trends”, we would like to clarify some points:

1. Our article was one of the foremost review papers on COVID-19. Please note that this article was submitted to the Editor of the Journal on 12th February 2020. On 11th February 2020 the disease was named as COVID-19¹ although the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19).
2. But at the time of submission of our article the etiological agent of COVID-19 was called “Novel Coronavirus 2019”².
3. Later “Novel Coronavirus-2019” name as SARS-CoV-2³.
4. Please, refer to our article 6th line in Abstract part it says “The COVID-19 virus was known earlier as 2019-nCoV”. Here COVID-19 virus means ‘COVID-19 causing virus’. We are not saying that COVID-19 is a virus. We agree that COVID-19 is a disease and the causative agent later named as is SARS-COV-2.
5. References 2, 3 and 4 mentioned by the commentator are published after 12th February 2020.
6. In our article the phrase COVID-19 virus refers to etiologic agent. There was a dilemma that how to name the virus at the time of preparation of this manuscript because on 12th February 2020 there was no concrete/definite name for this virus.
7. Some article referred as Wuhan coronavirus. Whereas some other called 2019-nCoV. Some other researchers referred it as Novel Coronavirus 2019⁴⁻⁶.
8. Our title says that “COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus 2019). This says that we have clearly demarcated the disease as COVID-19 and the virus separately.
9. Our article was prepared at the initial stages of pandemic. WHO announced COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic on 12-03-2020 only⁷.
10. The references 6, 7 and 8 were not published at the time of our manuscript preparation.
11. We have mentioned that glycoprotein may have acetyl esterase and HE properties with available sources at that time. However, the complete genome was not analyzed at that time and later SARS-CoV-2 genome was fully analyzed. Now we come to know that SARS-CoV-2 does not have this gene^{8,9}.

Conflict of Interest

The Authors declare that they have no conflict of interests.

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