

Review Form 1.6

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| Journal Name: | International Journal of Medical and Pharmaceutical Case Reports |
| Manuscript Number: | Ms_IJMPCR_84120 |
| Title of the Manuscript: | Vitamin D deficiency associated with staying indoors during the COVID-19 pandemic: A report of two infants |
| Type of the Article | Case study |

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound. To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

(<https://www.journalijmpcr.com/index.php/IJMPCR/editorial-policy>)

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PART 1: Review Comments

| | Reviewer's comment | Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here) |
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| Compulsory REVISION comments | <p>The authors of this paper describe 2 infants, one with subclinical vitamin D deficiency, and the second case with just biochemical vitamin D deficiency. Authors claim that the deficiency may be due to lack of sunlight exposure due to the strict quarantine measures instituted because of the COVID pandemic.</p> <p>Vitamin D deficiency is a worldwide problem that far antedated the beginning of the COVID pandemic (Dawodu & Wagner 2012), though it is possible that it has become more pronounced following the COVID epidemic as the authors suggested.</p> <p>Vitamin D deficiency during early infancy is most likely due to maternal vitamin D deficiency. Furthermore, if these infants were breastfed, they likely develop Vitamin D deficiency even without isolation due to the pandemic. Breast milk is a poor source of vitamin D. Because of this reason, AAP (American Academy of Pediatrics) recommends vitamin D supplements., 400 U/day to all breastfed infants (Armstrong 2009). The authors should state if the second case was also breastfed and if the mothers of both infants were taking vitamin D supplements.</p> <p>AAP does not recommend sun exposure to young infants because of its immediate effects on the skin (sunburn without adequate attention) and future risk of skin cancer. Instead, all infants are to be given at least 400 units/day of vitamin D supplement. People of dark skin need much longer sun exposure than people of light skin to get the same amount of 1,25 dihydroxy vitamin D. Thus authors should state the patients' ethnic background.</p> <p>Vitamin D deficiency did not occur anew following the COVID pandemic, as seen in the article cited above, but this type of publication may remind readers of the importance of vitamin D supplements regardless of age, particularly during the winter months when the sunlight is limited. However, we do not recommend direct sun exposure to young infants to supplement Vitamin D. Instead of sunlight exposure, authors should recommend Vitamin D supplements.</p> <p>Another timely article was published which was not included in the references. Please add this article (Guwani 2021)</p> <p>Armstrong C. AAP Doubles Recommended Vitamin D Intake in Children. Am Fam Physician. 2009 Jul 15;80(2):196-198.</p> <p>Guwani Liyanage, Yashica de Silva, "Vitamin D Deficiency Rickets and COVID-19 Pandemic", Case Reports in Pediatrics, vol. 2021, Article ID 5512668, 3 pages, 2021. https://doi.org/10.1155/2021/5512668</p> <p>Dawodu A, Wagner CL., Prevention of vitamin D deficiency in mothers and infants worldwide — a paradigm shift. Paediatrics and International Child Health. 2012;32(1):3-13</p> | |
| Minor REVISION comments | | |

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| Optional/General comments | The article lacks innovative ideas, and the discussion is superficial. However, it may be timely to publish this type of paper to remind the readers of higher risk of vitamin D deficiency associated with strict indoor isolation compared to the normal time. I would suggest extensive revision along the line suggested to have the authors resubmit. | |
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PART 2:

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| | Reviewer's comment | Author's comment <i>(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i> |
| Are there ethical issues in this manuscript? | <i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i> | |

Reviewer Details:

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|----------------------------------|---|
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