



Since January 2020 Elsevier has created a COVID-19 resource centre with free information in English and Mandarin on the novel coronavirus COVID-19. The COVID-19 resource centre is hosted on Elsevier Connect, the company's public news and information website.

Elsevier hereby grants permission to make all its COVID-19-related research that is available on the COVID-19 resource centre - including this research content - immediately available in PubMed Central and other publicly funded repositories, such as the WHO COVID database with rights for unrestricted research re-use and analyses in any form or by any means with acknowledgement of the original source. These permissions are granted for free by Elsevier for as long as the COVID-19 resource centre remains active.



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

## Heart &amp; Lung

journal homepage: [www.heartandlung.com](http://www.heartandlung.com)

## Initial CT scan and its relationship with Covid-19



We read with great interest the article recently published by Khosravi et al. entitled “Predictive value of initial CT scan for various adverse outcomes in patients with COVID-19 pneumonia”.<sup>1</sup> This study has shown that CT findings may be related to admission to intensive care unit (ICU), intubation and mortality. As is known, COVID-19 patients with hypertension, cardio-cerebrovascular diseases and diabetes are more frequently admitted to ICU.<sup>2</sup> Patients with heart and renal insufficiencies show more ground glass opacities (GGO) on CT scan.<sup>3</sup> In this study, we did see any information about the diseases that could mimic the COVID-19 pneumonia on CT images. In addition, the association between smoking and bad prognosis in COVID-19 patients has been well documented.<sup>4</sup> In patients with smoking-related idiopathic interstitial pneumonias, CT scan demonstrates reticular patterns and GGOs.<sup>5</sup> We think that smoking and presence of possible smoking-related idiopathic interstitial pneumonias may affect the results of the study.

Serdar Kalemci, MD  
Aydın Sarıhan, MD\*  
Arife Zeybek, MD

Department of Chest Diseases, Medical Park Gebze Hospital, Kocaeli,  
Turkey

Department of Emergency Medicine, Manisa City Hospital, Manisa,  
Turkey

Department of Chest Surgery, Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University, School of  
Medicine, Muğla, Turkey

\*Corresponding author.

E-mail address: [aydinarsarihan@yahoo.com](mailto:aydinarsarihan@yahoo.com) (A. Sarıhan).

Received 29 October 2020

Accepted 11 November 2020

Available online 19 November 2020

## References

1. Khosravi B, Aghaghazvini L, Sorouri M, et al. Predictive value of initial CT scan for various adverse outcomes in patients with COVID-19 pneumonia. *Heart Lung*. 2020.
2. Li B, Yang J, Zhao F, et al. Prevalence and impact of cardiovascular metabolic diseases on COVID-19 in China. *Clin Res Cardiol*. 2020;109:531–538.
3. Löbelenz LI, Ebner L, Obmann VC, et al. Kerley B lines in the lung apex—a distinct CT sign for pulmonary congestion. *Swiss Med Wkly*. 2019;149.
4. Guan WJ, Liang WH, Zhao Y, et al. China medical treatment expert group for Covid-19.(2020). comorbidity and its impact on 1590 patients with Covid-19 in China: a nationwide analysis. *Eur Respir J* 10:13900547–13993003.
5. Margaritopoulos GA, Harari S, Caminati A, et al. Smoking-related idiopathic interstitial pneumonia: a review. *Respirology*. 2016;21:57–64.