



Correspondence on “Does wearing double surgical masks during the COVID-19 pandemic and maternal oxygen saturation in term pregnant women”

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Dear Editor,

We would like to share ideas on the publication “Does wearing double surgical masks (SM) during the COVID-19 pandemic reduce maternal oxygen saturation in term pregnant women?: A prospective study [1]”. Isikalan et al. concluded that “*When using double SM, oxygen saturation is significantly reduced compared to pre-mask values. Nevertheless, it seems difficult to say that these decreases have clinical significance [1].*” We believe that wearing a facemask is a crucial COVID-19 prevention technique. The effect on oxygen saturation is a fascinating topic. The oxygen saturation can be affected by a number of things. It is tough to draw conclusions about the effect of double SM wearing without knowing your personal health history. A patient with underlying thalassemia [2], for example, may have a decreased oxygen saturation regardless wearing SM or not. Furthermore, the ability of SM to fit with face shape varies from person to person, which can alter the final measured oxygen saturation level. Finally, the pore size of the SM is enormous, allowing for the transmission of small viruses as well as oxygen, which is a smaller molecule than virus [3].

Author contributions RM 50%—1a Substantial contributions to study conception and design. 1b. Substantial contributions to acquisition of data. 1c. Substantial contributions to analysis and interpretation of data. 2. Drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content. 3. Final approval of the version of the article to be published. VW 50%—1a Substantial contributions to study conception and design. 1b. Substantial contributions to acquisition of data. 1c. Substantial contributions to analysis and interpretation of data. 2. Drafting the

article or revising it critically for important intellectual content. 3. Final approval of the version of the article to be published.

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