

Letter to the Editor



Response to Letter Regarding Article, The Role of COVID-19 Vaccination for Patients With Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease in the Upcoming Endemic Era

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► See the letter “Letter by Hinpetch Daungsupawong Regarding Article, The Role of COVID-19 Vaccination for Patients With Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease in the Upcoming Endemic Era” in volume 13 on page 212.

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Conflict of Interest

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Dear Editor,

I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to engage with the concerns and perspectives presented in the letter¹ regarding my review article² titled “The Role of COVID-19 Vaccination for Patients with Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease in the Upcoming Endemic Era,” published in the *Journal of Lipid and Atherosclerosis*.

The letter rightly underscores the transformative impact of COVID-19 vaccination in mitigating virus transmission, reducing serious illness, and hospitalization rates, thereby playing a pivotal role in the pandemic’s containment. As we navigate towards an endemic phase, the evolving context presents new challenges and perceptions towards vaccination, particularly as societal attitudes may shift with the virus becoming a less immediate threat to the general population.

However, it is critical to emphasize, as the letter does, that COVID-19 remains a substantial public health concern, especially for high-risk populations, including individuals with atherosclerotic cardiovascular (CV) disease. These groups continue to face significant morbidity and mortality risks, underlining the ongoing need for targeted vaccination efforts. Addressing vaccine hesitancy, fueled by concerns over side effects or the perceived diminishing threat of the virus, is essential in this endeavor.

The call for continued research and surveillance to refine and adapt vaccine recommendations in the endemic era is well-received. Our review article aims to contribute to this vital discourse, particularly by shedding light on the importance of prioritizing and tailoring vaccination strategies for those at heightened risk due to underlying health conditions such as atherosclerotic CV disease. Furthermore, the mechanisms behind various serious adverse reactions including myocarditis following COVID-19 vaccination are not yet clearly understood, and there is a lack of research on the long-term prognostic impact of such vaccine adverse events.³ Therefore, to be able to actively and safely recommend the COVID-19

Data Availability Statement

Data sharing is not applicable to this article as no datasets were generated or analyzed during the current study.

vaccine to patients who need it, ongoing researches and surveillance on these uncertainties would be necessary. Similarly, as the authors mentioned, my previous review article suggests that continuous research and surveillance are needed on this topic. It is also essential to conduct international collaborative research to elucidate the differences among countries in CV events reported following COVID-19 or COVID-19 vaccination, as reports vary by country.

In agreement with the points raised in the letter, our review also advocates for sustained efforts to promote vaccination and adapt strategies based on emerging data. The significance of COVID-19 vaccination extends beyond the immediate crisis, offering a blueprint for long-term disease control and prevention efforts, especially among vulnerable populations.

In conclusion, the dialogue initiated by the letter enriches our collective understanding and approach to managing COVID-19 in its endemic phase. It reinforces the need for ongoing vigilance, research, and public health initiatives to ensure the safety and well-being of all individuals, particularly those at increased risk. My review article contributes to this critical conversation, and I look forward to participating in further scholarly and practical efforts to navigate the challenges ahead.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to these important issues raised by the letter. I would like to remain committed to advancing the understanding of COVID-19 vaccination's role in the ever-evolving landscape of this virus, especially as it pertains to individuals with atherosclerotic CV disease.

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