

**CORRESPONDENCE**

# Letter to the Editor: Seroprevalence of SARS-CoV-2 antibodies among first-trimester pregnant women during the second wave of the pandemic in India

We would like to share ideas on the publication “Seroprevalence of SARS-CoV-2 antibodies among first-trimester pregnant women during the second wave of the pandemic in India.”<sup>1</sup> According to Sharma et al., first-trimester sero-molecular screening indicates a significant incidence of COVID antibodies in the study group of pregnant women in the first trimester, even though the patients were asymptomatic.<sup>1</sup> This report may contain helpful epidemiological information. The presence of asymptomatic COVID-19 in any population group is undeniable. A high seropositive rate can be expected in a region with a high accumulated reported number of COVID-19 cases. In terms of antibody testing, we should still be aware of the likelihood of a false positive in endemic areas. For example, dengue fever is common in tropical endemic countries, and dengue is a probable source of SARS-CoV-2 antibody-test false positives.<sup>2</sup> As a result, we must detect and evaluate the diagnostic features of antibody test kits for COVID-19 serological research.

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2. Nath H, Mallick A, Roy S, et al. Archived dengue serum samples produced false-positive results in SARS-CoV-2 lateral flow-based rapid antibody tests. *J Med Microbiol.* 2021;70(6):001369.