



Time-related aortic inflammatory response in severely or critical COVID-19

Dear Editor,

We would like to share ideas on the publication “Time-related aortic inflammatory response, as assessed with 18F-FDG PET/CT, in patients hospitalized with severely or critical COVID-19: the COVAIR study.¹” Aortic inflammation, as measured by 18F-FDG PET/CT imaging in patients with severe or critical COVID-19, is enhanced in the early post COVID phase and essentially decreases over time, according to Vlachopoulos et al.¹ We agree that COVID-19 may have an inflammatory alteration in the aorta. During COVID-19, the pathophysiology could be attributable to an aberrant inflammatory response or a hyperviscosity process.² The recent report suggests that the process is reversible and that no pathophysiological process via a permanent pathoimmunological mechanism exists.

Rujittika Mungmunpantipantip, PhD,^a Viroj Wiwanitkit, MD^b
^aPrivate Academic Consultant, Bangkok, Thailand
^bDr DY Patil University, Pune, India
e-mail: rujittika@gmail.com.

Disclosures *The authors have indicated that they have no financial conflict of interest.*

References

1. Vlachopoulos C, Terentes-Printzios D, Katsaounou P, Solomou E, Gardikioti V, Exarchos D. Time-related aortic inflammatory response, as assessed with 18F-FDG PET/CT, in patients hospitalized with severely or critical COVID-19: the COVAIR study. *J Nucl Cardiol* 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12350-022-02962-1>.
2. Joob B, Wiwanitkit V. Blood viscosity of COVID-19 patient: A preliminary report. *Am J Blood Res.* 2021;11:93-5.
doi:10.1007/s12350-022-03015-3

Publisher's Note Springer Nature remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.