

## Correspondence on “Determinants of COVID-19 in the police”

Dear Editor, we would like to share ideas on the publication “Epidemiological determinants of COVID-19 in the police personnel: A cross-sectional study”<sup>[1]</sup> Rupali *et al.*<sup>[1]</sup> concluded that “There is male preponderance for corona infection among police personnel. Breathlessness is common in males as compared with ... to judiciously follow physical distancing and practice general measures recommended by AYUSH.” COVID-19 can cause problem for any occupation. Based on the report by Rupali *et al.*, it is of no doubt that there were more infected male police than female police since most police are male. The clinical symptoms are not different from the general people. For police, the infection is reported worldwide and the disease might be associated with or without daily duty. Hence, it might be difficult to clarify that association between police job and risk of infection. Also, there are various duties of police that we might under recognize, such as working as medical personnel in police hospital. According to a report from Thailand, the second country where COVID was discovered in chronological order, the first police officer with COVID-19 was a man who was in charge of immigration checks.<sup>[2]</sup>

According to a retrospective review of verified COVID-19 cases from official investigation reports in Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam, police officer is one of the main occupations at the risk of contracting the disease once it has been imported.<sup>[3]</sup>

Standard prevention for the police is required and there should be a routine monitoring of silent infection among them since they are in contact with several people in their daily practice. In a previous report on serosurvey, police had about 3.4 times higher asymptomatic COVID-19 comparing to the general public.<sup>[4]</sup> Regarding distancing as suggested by Rupali *et al.*,<sup>[1]</sup> we agree that it might be a useful general prevention. However, how can it be effectively applied among police who work with several people daily is an interesting question that has not been considered. During the COVID-19 pandemic, police officers are nevertheless required to be physically present among communities to carry out their duties, often in dangerous conditions.<sup>[5]</sup> Occasionally, specific responsibilities result in no social distancing. For example, significant public rallies against coronavirus restrictions have occurred in numerous nations, and protestors’ reluctance to wear masks and to maintain social distance puts the police at risk.<sup>[5]</sup>

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Nil.

### Conflicts of interest

Authors are from poor developing country and cannot pay for any charge and ask for full waiving for this correspondence letter est.

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