

Article type : Letter to the Editor

### Response to the letter (JTH-2020-00398)

We appreciate the opportunity to respond to the comment about Sequential Organ Failure Assessment (SOFA) score by Dr. Coto, Ruben. We admit that we misquoted the original SOFA score including six items [1] in our paper. But we did not double-count the thrombopenia for sepsis-induced coagulopathy (SIC) score [2] in practice, it's an obvious repetitive item.

The enrolled patients in our study met the definition of severe COVID-19 suggested by National Health Commission of China [3], which reflected respiratory insufficiency based on three parameters. As  $\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2 \leq 300$  mmHg is one item of the severe COVID-19 definition, and respiratory support was given to almost all of the enrolled patients, In fact, most of our patients could get  $\geq 2$  points of respiratory SOFA score, meanwhile, some patients also got points of cardiovascular, hepatic or renal SOFA score. Hence, the results of prothrombin time (INR) and platelet count were commonly the determinants of SIC scoring in these patients.

We would like to modify the text about the SOFA score used in SIC criteria before formally publication of this paper.

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None declared.

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## References

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