Review 2: "Impact of Glucocorticoids and Immunosuppressive Therapies on Symptomatic SARS-CoV-2 Infection in a Large Cohort of Patients with Chronic Inflammatory Arthritis"

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The rheumatology community has had concerns about the use of immunosuppressive treatment during the outbreak of COVID-19. This manuscript is a valid study about the use of chronic glucocorticoids and immunomodulating therapies in rheumatic patients on the incidence of COVID-19. The use of biologic agents such as IL-1, IL-6, and JAK inhibitors has been questioned in treating patients infected by COVID-19. The use of glucocorticoids has also been questioned by several authors. Some have determined that the use of glucocorticoids could have a negative effect on virus replication, and some have argued that it could be beneficial on hyper-inflammation associated with COVID-19.

Recently, several guidelines have recommended the use of dexamethasone in COVID-19.

1) What is the author’s opinion on the use of dexamethasone in COVID-19? This should be discussed since several recent guidelines have included the use of DXM.

2) Has any of the hospitalized patients been treated with glucocorticoids? Or with IL-6 and IL-1 inhibitors?

Several studies have proved that the use of biologic agents could protect from inflammation associated with SARS-CoV2 and many have not proved the benefit of using HCQ.