LETTER TO THE EDITOR - AUTHOR'S REPLY

Dear Editor,

I read "Letter to The Editor" (1) with considerable interest and attention on my article "The Relationship between Blood Groups and COVID-19 Patients" (2). My study is a retrospective descriptive study conducted on the data in Public Health Management System (HSYS). It is not possible to have a control group in this type of research. Çekdemir et al. (3) was added as a research example with a frequency of 0 Rh + in our country. As I have not given any risk ratio in that study, it has been stated that more studies are needed for protection. In my study, the frequency of ARh + was higher in patients with COVID-19 positive, and the frequency of 0Rh + was low. Given that the study is a descriptive study, it will be useful to evaluate the results. In addition, the limitations of the study are stated in the discussion section. It was stated in the results that there was a difference between cough symptoms according to blood groups. It would have been accurate to add the word except cough in the conclusion.

Peer-review: Externally peer-reviewed.

Conflict of Interest: The author have no conflict of interest to declare.

Financial Disclosure: The author declared that this study has received no financial support.

Mustafa Cakır 0

Department of Public Health, İstanbul Medeniyet University Faculty of Medicine, İstanbul, Turkey

Submitted: 19.04.2021; Accepted: 23.04.2021; Available Online: 11.05.2021

Correspondence: Mustafa Çakır, İstanbul Medeniyet University Faculty of Medicine, Department of Public Health, İstanbul, Turkey

 $\textbf{Phone:} +90\ 541\ 812\ 86\ 61; \textbf{e-mail:} \ mustafa-5355@hotmail.com$



REFERENCES

- Çetin BŞ, Arslan D. The relationship between blood groups and COVID-19 patients. Erciyes Med J. 2021 Mar 3. doi: 10.14744/ etd.2021.03185. [Epub ahead-of-print]. [CrossRef]
- Çakır M. The relationship between blood groups and COVID-19 patients. Erciyes Med J 2021; 43(2): 142–5. [CrossRef]
- Çekdemir D, Ergenc H, Ucar A, Cekdemir YE, Gunduz M, Oren AC, et al. Blood groups distributions of donors/patients in a tertiary hospital. Sakarya Med J 2018; 8(4): 753–8.