

Editorial: The Similar Clinical and Laboratory Findings of COVID-19 in Family Members



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Since the onset of COVID-19 disease in Iran on February 19, 2020, I have observed thousands of COVID-19 patients because of my duties as a member of research projects in the Immunoregulation Research Center of Shahed University and the supervisor of Simorgh Clinical Laboratory.

Many of these patients were recruited to the cohort study entitled “Iran-Cohort Study of COVID-19 Immunology and Immunopathology.” Subsequently, the hematology, biochemistry, immunology tests with clinical questionnaires were performed for them.

Among these patients were families where all family members were infected. Our findings showed that the clinical signs and symptoms and laboratory parameters of individuals in special family groups were similar to each other. For example, although most COVID-19 patients show a decrease in lymphocytes and an increase in neutrophils and inflammatory factors, which indicates the severity of the disease, in members of an infected family with no and mild symptoms, the lymphocyte count was high and inflammatory factors were normal.

In the previous issue, I emphasized the importance of precision medicine and an individualized treatment approach. Likewise, our findings on family members show that considering the familiar similarities and severity of

clinical conditions, particular aspects of the immune response and disease management could be obtained in affected individuals. This concern is also essential in the immune response of people to the COVID-19 vaccine.

Ethical Considerations

Compliance with ethical guidelines

There were no ethical considerations to be considered in this research.

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Conflicts of interest

The authors declared no conflict of interest.

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