
COVID-19, Villitis and Placenta in Pregnancy

Dear Editor,

We would like to correspond and share ideas on the publication “Movement Disorders in COVID-19: Whither Art Thou? (1).” Ozer et al. noted that “We hypothesize that VUE may represent a maternal anti-viral immune response, in this case to SARS-CoV-2 (1).” Theoretically, the virus infection in pregnancy might affect the placenta. Regarding COVID-19, it is proven that the placental barrier can prevent transplacental migration of the virus based on its nanostructure (2). This means the circulating virus during viremia in a pregnant woman might rod into the placenta without crossing the placenta. It is no doubt that there might be an immune mechanism at the placenta that can lead to villitis. If there is no underlying placenta pathology, there should be no transplacental transmission to the fetus in utero (2,3).

CONFLICT of INTEREST

The author declares no conflict of interest.

AUTHORSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS

Concept, design, data collection or processing, analysis or Interpretation, literature search, writing, and approval for the study were made by VW.

REFERENCES

1. Ozer E, Cagliyan E, Yuzuguldu RI, Cevizci MC, Duman N. Villitis of unknown etiology in the placenta of a pregnancy complicated by COVID-19. *Turk Patoloji Derg.* 2020;(Online ahead of print)
2. Sriwijitalai W, Wiwanitkit V. Comparative nanostructure consideration on Wuhan novel coronavirus and possibility of transplacental transmission. *Am J Obstet Gynecol.* 2020;223: 955
3. Wiwanitkit V. Atypical mode of COVID-19 transmission: Possibility? *Epidemiol Health.* 2020;42:e2020059.

Viroj WIWANITKIT

Dr. DY Patil University, Department of Community Medicine, Pune, MAHARASHTRA, INDIA

E-mail: wviroj@yahoo.com

Phone: 662 413 24 36