

# Comparing the severity of Outcomes of SARS-CoV-2 between RT-PCR-positive and RT-PCR-negative Individuals in Iran

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Khosravi Shadmani F<sup>1</sup>, Shahram Arsang-Jang<sup>2</sup>, Hamid Rashidzadeh<sup>2</sup>, Kamyar Mansori<sup>2</sup>, Siamak Heidarzadeh<sup>2</sup>, Farid Najafi<sup>1</sup>, Ebrahim Shakiba<sup>1</sup>, Karami M<sup>3</sup>, Sartipi M<sup>4</sup>, Ghobad Moradi<sup>5</sup>, Ebrahim Ghaderi<sup>5</sup>, Abdollah Mohammadian-Hafshejani<sup>6</sup>, Ali Ahmadi<sup>7</sup>, Elham Nouri<sup>5</sup>, Shojaeian M<sup>8</sup>, Alireza Zali<sup>9</sup>, Ayad Bahadorimonfared<sup>9</sup>, and Seyed Saeed Hashemi Nazari<sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Kermanshah University of Medical Sciences

<sup>2</sup>Zanjan University of Medical Sciences

<sup>3</sup>Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences Department of Epidemiology

<sup>4</sup>Zahedan University of Medical Sciences

<sup>5</sup>Kurdistan University of Medical Sciences

<sup>6</sup>Shahrour University of Medical Sciences

<sup>7</sup>Shahrekord University of Medical Science

<sup>8</sup>Hamadan University of Medical Sciences School of Public Health

<sup>9</sup>Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences School of Medicine

<sup>10</sup>Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences School of Public Health and Safety

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### Abstract

The aim of this study was to compare the outcomes of SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR-positive and RT-PCR negative Patients in Iran. This cohort study performed on 81393 patients with COVID-19 in six provinces of Iran during 2020. The studied variables include demographic and clinical. To examine the associations between RT-PCR test and death or ICU admission as dependent variable the multiple Bayesian logistic regression model was used by R software. 81393 individual (44.9 % female) with a mean age of  $52.98 \pm 20.8$  years were included to the analysis. At all, 25434 tests (31.2 %) were positive RT-PCR, including 10772 men (44.9%) and 14662 women (55.1%). The multiple Bayesian logistic regression model showed a significant positive association between RT-PCR test results and COVID-19 mortality rate (OR: 1.46; 95% CrI: 1.29- 1.64). Also, males, older age, individual with chronic disease have higher risk of COVID-19 death, however, negative association observed between history of contact and COVID-19 death. We observed a significant inverse association between RT-PCR test results and ICU admission, while, the risk of ICU admission increased significantly by 1.2 times (95% CrI for odds ratio: 1.09, 1.34) among patients with negative RT-PCR test compared to positive RT-PCR test. People with positive RT-PCR test, male gender, older age, having a history of underlying disease have a higher risk of death and hospitalization in the ICU. Therefore, paying attention to these factors will be effective in reducing the risk of death and hospitalization in ICU.

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