

IMPACT OF COMORBIDITIES IN COVID-19

ВЛИЯНИЕ СОПУТСТВУЮЩИХ ЗАБОЛЕВАНИЙ ПРИ COVID-19

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**THE IMPACT OF CONCOMITANT DISEASES DURING SARS-COV-2
INFECTION IN RESIDENTS OF KAZAKHSTAN**

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**ВЛИЯНИЕ СОПУТСТВУЮЩИХ ЗАБОЛЕВАНИЙ ПРИ ИНФЕКЦИИ
SARS-COV-2 У ЖИТЕЛЕЙ КАЗАХСТАНА**

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Abstract

Background . Since the onset of the COVID -19 pandemic, interindividual variability in the course of the disease has been reported , indicating a wide range of factors influencing it. Factors most commonly associated with increased severity of COVID -19 disease include older age, obesity, and diabetes. The impact of the cytokine storm is complex, reflecting the complexity of the immunological processes triggered by SARS - CoV -2 infection. A modern problem such as a worldwide pandemic requires modern solutions, which in this case involve the use of machine learning to analyze differences in the clinical properties of populations affected by the disease and then assess its significance, which in turn leads to the creation of a tool that applicable to assess the individual risk of infection with SARS - CoV -2.

Methods . Values of biochemical and morphological parameters of 781 patients (Kazakhstan, Shymkent) were collected and used for static analysis. The Spearman rank correlation coefficient formula was used to estimate the correlations between each of the traits in the population .

Results . The highest correlation coefficients were shown by such parameters as , patient's age and sex , serum glucose, while the highest inverse correlation coefficient was estimated for serum red blood cell count.

Conclusion . The current analysis indicates a range of parameters available for routine screening in clinical settings. A tool based on these parameters is also presented, useful for assessing the individual risk of developing COVID -19 in patients. A limitation of the study is the demographics of the study population, which may limit its general applicability.

Keywords: SARS - CoV -2, blood biomarkers, COVID -19, comorbid pathology, arterial hypertension.

Резюме

История вопроса. С начала пандемии COVID-19 сообщалось о межиндивидуальных особенностях течения заболевания, что указывает на широкий спектр факторов, влияющих на него. Факторы, наиболее часто связанные с повышенной тяжестью заболевания COVID-19 включают пожилой возраст, ожирение и диабет. Цитокиновый шторм оказывает разные эффекты, что отражает сложность иммунологических процессов, запускаемых инфекцией SARS-CoV-2. Вызовы современности, такие как глобальные пандемии, требуют новых решений, которые могут включать использование машинного обучения для анализа различий в клинических свойствах популяций пациентов и последующей оценки его значимости, что, в свою очередь, приводит к созданию инструмента для оценки индивидуального риска заражения SARS-CoV-2.

Методы. Значения биохимических и морфологических параметров 781 пациента (Казахстан, Шымкент) были собраны и использованы для статического анализа. Формула коэффициента ранговой корреляции Спирмена использовалась для оценки корреляций между каждым из признаков в популяции.

Результаты. Самые высокие коэффициенты корреляции были показаны для таких параметров, как возраст и пол пациента, уровень глюкозы в сыворотке, в то время как самый высокий коэффициент обратной корреляции был обнаружен для содержания эритроцитов в сыворотке крови.

Заключение. Представленный анализ указывает на ряд параметров, доступных для рутинного скрининга в клинических условиях. Также представлен подход, основанный на изученных параметрах, применимый для оценки индивидуального риска развития COVID-19 у пациентов. Ограничением исследования является демографическая характеристика исследуемой популяции, что может влиять на его общую применимость.

Ключевые слова: SARS-CoV-2, биомаркеры крови, COVID-19, коморбидная патология, артериальная гипертензия.

1 Introduction

Pandemic new coronavirus infection (COVID-19), which is spread by the SARSCoV-2 virus, is challenge systems health everyone countries peace. Most frequent manifestation of COVID-19 is defeat respiratory systems. Maintaining patient with COVID-19 implies Not only treatment pneumonia And respiratory insufficiency, but And timely recognition And treatment defeats others target organs. Analysis factors from all countries associated With heavy with the current And unfavorable COVID-19 forecast, indicates on important role comorbid pathologies such as cardiovascular diseases (CVD) (arterial hypertension (AH), ischemic disease heart (CHD), sugar diabetes (DM), chronic obstructive disease lungs (COPD), chronic blood diseases (anemia), autoimmune diseases, cancer, etc. [8]. The course of SARS-CoV-2 infection can be influenced by several factors, including the presence of concomitant diseases in patients [2]. Comorbidities such as type 2 diabetes affect the host immune response, which may be associated with severe SARS-CoV-2 infection. In the context of type 2 diabetes, there is an increased release of pro-inflammatory cytokines, which can lead to cytokine storms in patients with SARS-CoV-2(+). The occurrence of a cytokine storm correlates with a worse course of the infection [6]. Moreover, patients with SARS-CoV-2(+) exhibit some changes in blood parameters, which may further influence the severity of the infection. For example, changes in inflammatory markers in patients with SARS-CoV-2 (+) may indicate a complex mechanism of infection and its long-term consequences [5].

Given the wide variation in the course of SARS-CoV-2 infection among patients and the need to identify effective therapy, the main goal of our study was to determine the physiological characteristics of patients infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus, and the presence of comorbidities. The secondary objective of this study was to elucidate the underlying mechanisms influencing multiorgan dysfunction during COVID-19 infection. Contributing physiological parameters were ranked in terms of their importance to the predictive model using machine learning. This means that

30 preventive measures V period the COVID-19 pandemic should fold How from
31 events By prevention infection , yes And activities aimed at on optimal control
32 comorbid states _ Target _ of this study - definition features of the management of
33 patients with COVID -19 infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus, with the presence of
34 concomitant diseases (Table 2) and provide important information that _ Maybe be
35 useful at conducting Total spectrum comorbid patients V conditions COVID-19
36 pandemic - How uninfected , yes And carrying COVID-19.

37 **Materials and methods:**

38 3696 patients were studied, of which 781 patients had a comorbid condition.
39 The analyzed data set consisted of the test results of 781 patients hospitalized in the
40 city infectious diseases hospital in Shymkent, Kazakhstan. Three hundred ninety-
41 five of them were women ($n = 395$; 50.58%) and three hundred eighty-six men (n
42 = 386 ; 49.42%) (Table 1). Ages 20 – 80 and older years, mean = 51.6 years, median
43 = 50 years) hospitalized due to severe infection. acute respiratory syndrome
44 coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Table 2). About two hundred blood test results
45 belonged to the control group (women, $n = 60$; 30%; men, $n = 140$; 70%; age 20–
46 65 years , median = 42.5 years) without SARS-CoV-2 in PCR analysis. The resulting
47 data set included in this study consisted of anthropometric parameters: age, gender;
48 serum biochemical parameters: glucose , morphological indicators: number of red
49 blood cells (RBC Count);

50 *Criteria inclusions:* laboratory confirmed diagnosis of COVID -19; Patients
51 With established concomitant diseases, having at least 6 months. dispensary
52 observation for this disease; age of patients (18 and older);

53 *Exclusion criteria:* patient age (under 18 years); lack of laboratory
54 confirmation of the diagnosis of COVID-19; presence of pregnancy;

55 **Results and discussion.**

56 Data from this study suggest that the course of SARS-CoV-2 infection may
57 depend on multiple factors. The present study examined and examined the influence
58 of gender, age and changes in blood parameters of patients with COVID -19.

59 **Floor** . In the presented analysis of the effect of patient gender on the course
60 of SARS-CoV-2, a significant correlation was observed between poor prognosis and
61 female gender, in contrast to the results of a previous report that reported higher
62 mortality among men [7]. This may be explained by the fact that men have higher
63 expression of angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 (ACE2), which may facilitate the
64 entry of the virus into the host cell [3].

65

66 In patients with COVID-19 with concomitant diseases, a comparative analysis
67 of clinical manifestations revealed significant differences in the form of age; among
68 patients, people over 60 years of age predominated in the group of severe and
69 extremely severe cases and SpO₂ (histogram 2). As can be seen from histogram 3,
70 in patients of the main group the infection proceeded mainly in severe and critical
71 form , when in the comparison group the moderate-severe course of the infection
72 prevailed.

73

74 **Hyperglycemia.** Survey results patients indicate that perglycemia correlates
75 with severe SARS-CoV-2 disease (Table 2). As can be seen in the table, 207
76 (26.50%) patients had diabetes mellitus. This was reported in an Italian study [4].
77 Blood sugar levels were elevated in more than 30% of patients in the control group
78 and in more than 86% of patients in the SARS-CoV-2(+) group. Another study also
79 reported that 51.5 and 57.4% of severely and critically ill patients were diagnosed
80 with diabetes [1]. A high concentration of glucose directly affects the course of the
81 infection, and also affects this process indirectly through the development of further
82 complications, such as diabetic ketoacidosis and concomitant vascular diseases
83 (atherosclerosis, peripheral atherosclerosis) [9,10].

84

85 **Comorbid background in patients with COVID -19.** The most common
86 pathology was hypertension, which was recorded in 715 (91.55%) patients with
COVID-19, in 2nd place were neurological diseases (39.44%), and in 3rd place was

87 coronary artery disease (32.14%). Diabetes mellitus was observed in 207 (26.50%)
88 patients (Table 2).

89 Based on the results of this analysis of all complications that developed
90 against the background of COVID-19, significant differences were identified in the
91 study groups. In patients of the main group, more severe complications were more
92 often observed (stage 3 DN - 94.49%; ARDS - 55.31%; PE - 56.85%; OSHF -
93 59.28%) (histogram 5). A DN I Art. and DN II Art. were recorded significantly more
94 often in the control group (histogram 6).

95 **Morphological parameters** . One study found that low red blood cell
96 concentration was associated with SARS-CoV-2 severity . Patients who had a worse
97 prognosis were found to have decreased red blood cell counts. This report also
98 suggests a relationship between red blood cell count and hemoglobin concentration
99 [9,10]. The results presented in this study indicate that low red blood cell counts in
100 the study groups correlate with a higher percentage of hospitalized patients and more
101 severe infection. This is because red blood cells provide an important function in the
102 respiratory and central nervous systems. Pearson's correlation coefficient was used
103 to statistically analyze the correlation of intervariables. The relationships between
104 cohort parameters for different severity levels of COVID-19 disease are presented
105 (Table 2). Hemoglobin levels were positively associated with red blood cells ($r =$
106 0.456 ; $p < 0.001$) and PCV ($r = 0.566$; $p < 0.001$). RBC and PCV levels were
107 positively correlated with each other in the SCP group ($r = 0.589$; $p < 0.001$).

108

109 In patients with COVID-19 with concomitant diseases, a comparative analysis
110 of laboratory parameters in patients with severe and extremely severe severity of
111 COVID-19 showed a significantly significant increase in markers of inflammation
112 and D- dimer (ferritin in severe cases is more than 2.5 norms, in extremely severe
113 cases during the course is more than 4 norms, CRP is more than 7 norms, LDH in
114 severe cases is 1.5 r more than the norm, in extremely severe cases it is twice the
115 norm, IL-6 in severe cases is more than 9 norms, with extremely severe is more than

116 19 norms, D- dimer is more than 6 norms in extremely severe cases and 2 norms in
117 severe cases) (Histogram 3).

118 In patients of moderate severity, according to CT of the lungs, the damage to
119 the pulmonary parenchyma is the smallest ($p < 0.5$) CT1 28%, CT 3 10% versus 48%
120 in severe and 90% in extremely severe cases, when in severe infection the lungs are
121 affected often corresponded to CT3 and CT4. During a critical course of infection
122 in patients with a comorbid background, damage to the pulmonary parenchyma is
123 significantly more common than CT level 4 ($p < 0.01$). In patients with an extremely
124 severe course, complications developed in 100% of cases and death in 90.2% ($p <$
125 0.001). With moderate severity, complications developed in only 43.7%, recovery
126 was 10.1 ($p < 0.01$), no deaths were recorded. In patients with COVID-19 without
127 CVD with extremely severe cases, complications developed in 100% of cases and
128 lethal outcome in 53% ($p < 0.001$). With moderate severity, complications developed
129 in 18%, recovery was observed in 17.6%, improvement in 82%. Lethal outcomes
130 were recorded only in cases of extremely severe infection (Table 3).

131 **Conclusion .**

132 Assessing the impact of pre-existing comorbidities and changes in
133 biochemical and morphological parameters observed in patients with SARS-CoV-2
134 over the course of the disease may contribute to a better understanding of the impact
135 of each of these individual factors on pathology. Consequently, this may
136 subsequently influence the selection of appropriate therapy and the reduction of
137 possible complications . It was found that in patients with COVID-19 with a
138 comorbid background , the most common pathology was arterial hypertension
139 (91.55 %) , coronary heart disease (32.14 %) and various neuropathies were also
140 identified. In patients COVID-19 with concomitant diseases, severe forms of
141 infection prevailed, affecting the lungs 75–80% (according to CT data), which were
142 accompanied by the development of stage 2–3 respiratory failure. (in 60% of cases)
143 and an increase in inflammatory markers (IL-6 , ferritin , D-dimer). Patients with
144 COVID-19 over the age of 70 years with concomitant hypertension in combination

145 with other chronic diseases constitute a risk group for developing a severe form of
146 infection with an unfavorable prognosis and require timely hospitalization, dynamic
147 observation in a hospital, as well as rehabilitation after a coronavirus infection. It is
148 necessary to increase the efficiency of further clinical observation of patients in this
149 category.

ТАБЛИЦЫ

Table 1. Some laboratory data of patients with COVID-19

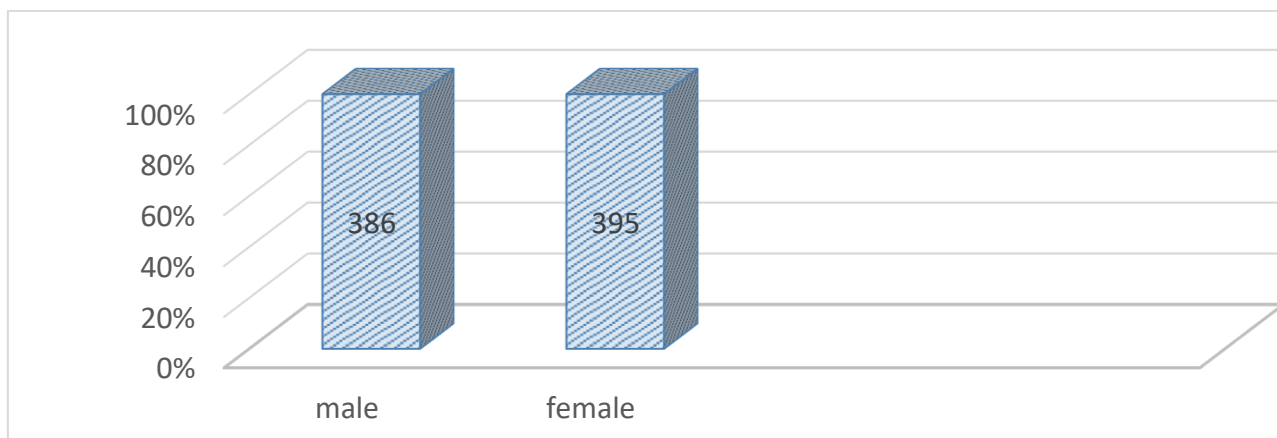
| Parameter | SCP (n = 200) | NSCP (n = 200) |
|------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Hb and WBC | r0.456 __ p with | r 0.589 p 0.353 |
| Hb and WBC | 0.566 <0.001 | -0.37 0.4 76 |

r = correlation coefficient; p = significance; Negative values indicate the opposite correlation. The correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-sided). SCP—patients with severe COVID-19; NSCP - patients with non-severe COVID-19; Hb hemoglobin; ERT red blood cells;

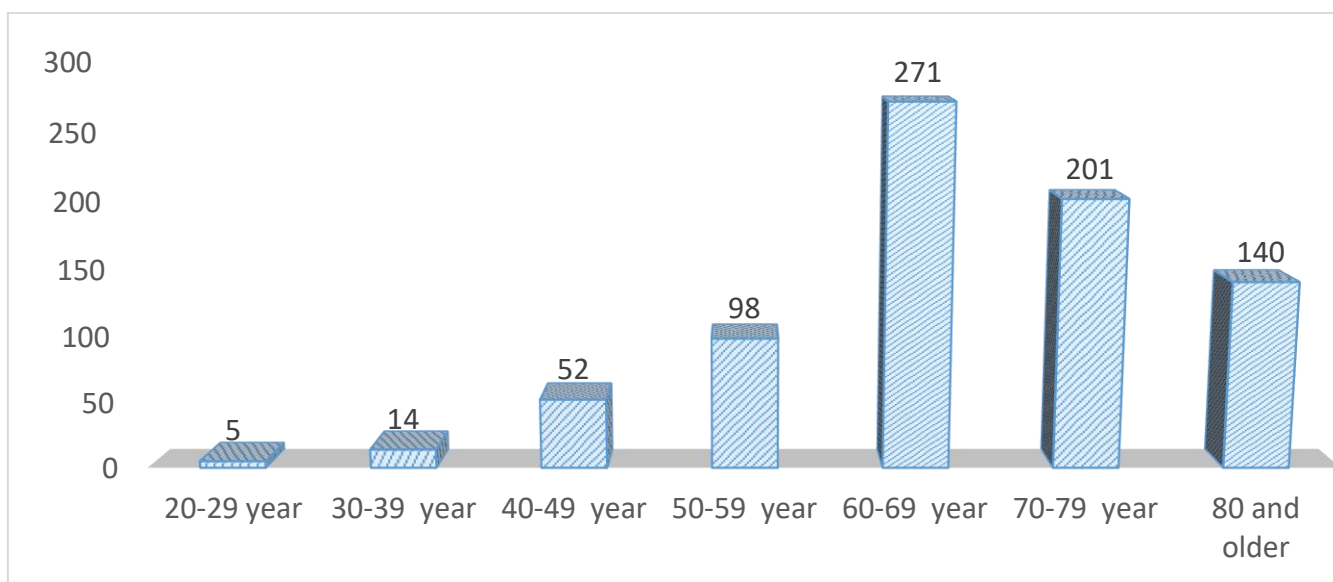
Table 2. Outcomes at various degrees severity of COVID-19

| Degree gravity | Average (%) | Heavy (%) | Extremely heavy (%) | p |
|----------------|-------------|-----------|---------------------|--------|
| Improvement | 97.44% | 0.5 | 0 | <0.01 |
| Lethal Exodus | 2.56% | 0.5 | 90.2 | <0.001 |
| Complications | 43.7% | 55.5 | 100 | <0.01 |

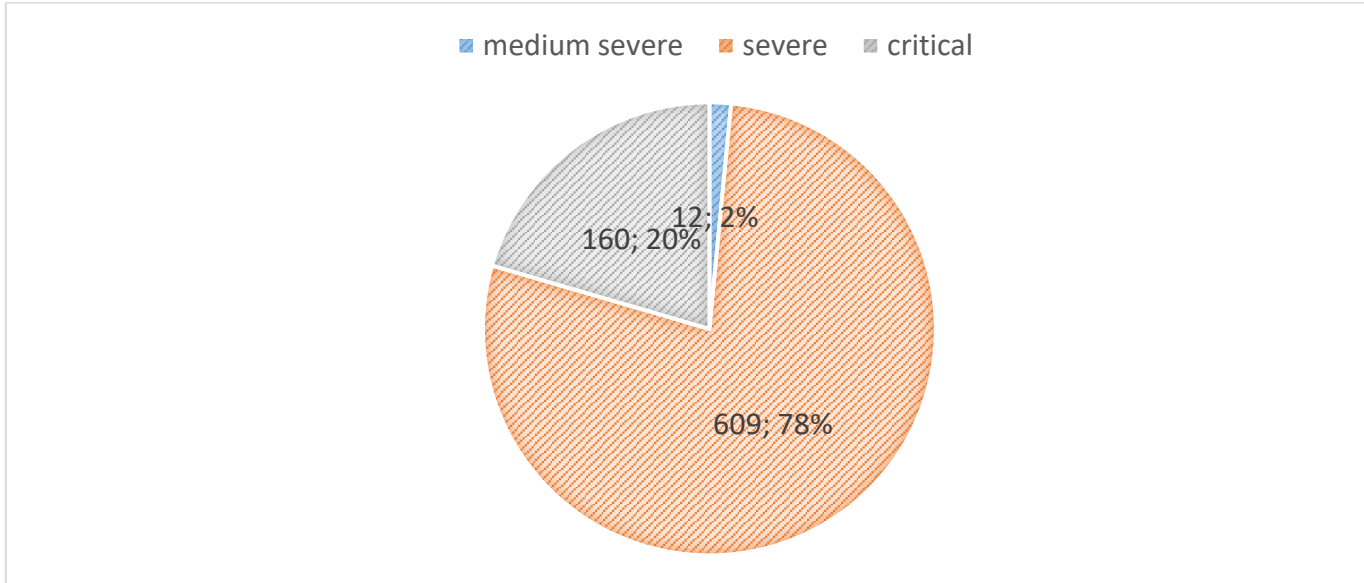
РИСУНКИ

Histogram 1. Gender of patients with COVID-19 .

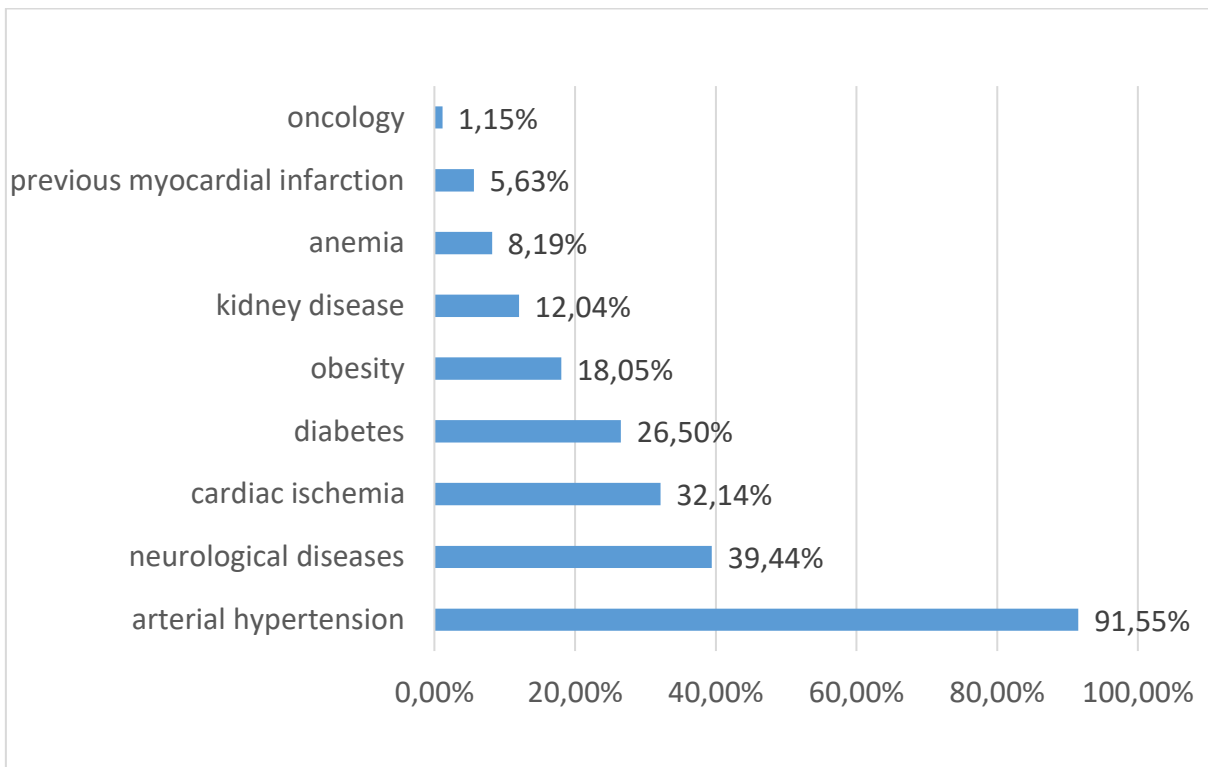
In patients with COVID-19 with concomitant diseases, a comparative analysis of clinical manifestations revealed significant differences in the form of age; among patients, people over 60 years of age predominated in the group of severe and extremely severe cases and SpO₂ (histogram 2). As can be seen from histogram 3, in patients of the main group the infection proceeded mainly in severe and critical form, when in the comparison group the moderate-severe course of the infection prevailed.

Histogram 2. Age structure of patients with COVID -19

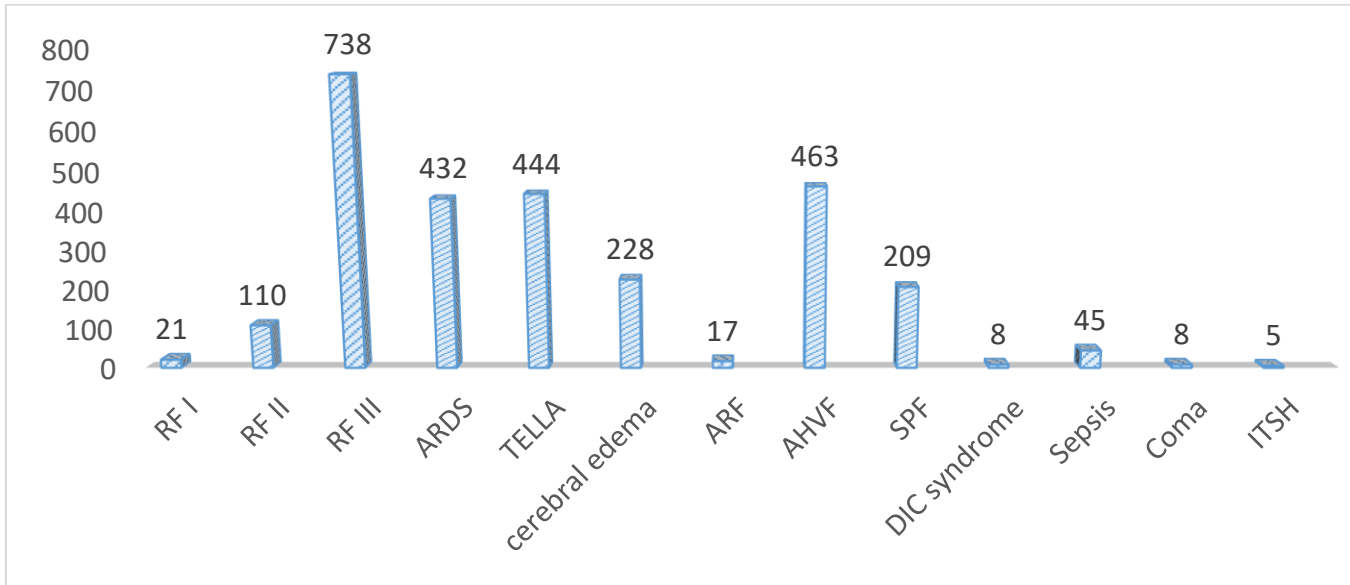
Histogram 3. COVID-19 severity in patients



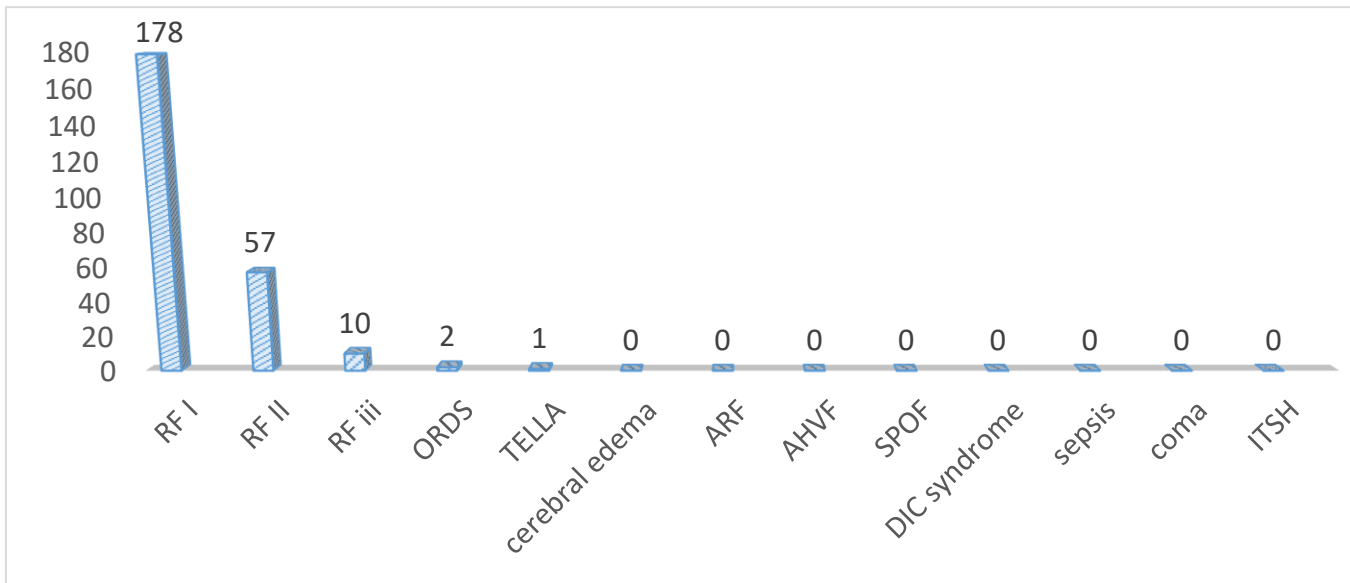
Histogram 4. Structure of CVD among patients with coronavirus infection COVID-19



Histogram 5. Structure and frequency of COVID-19 complications in the study groups (main group).

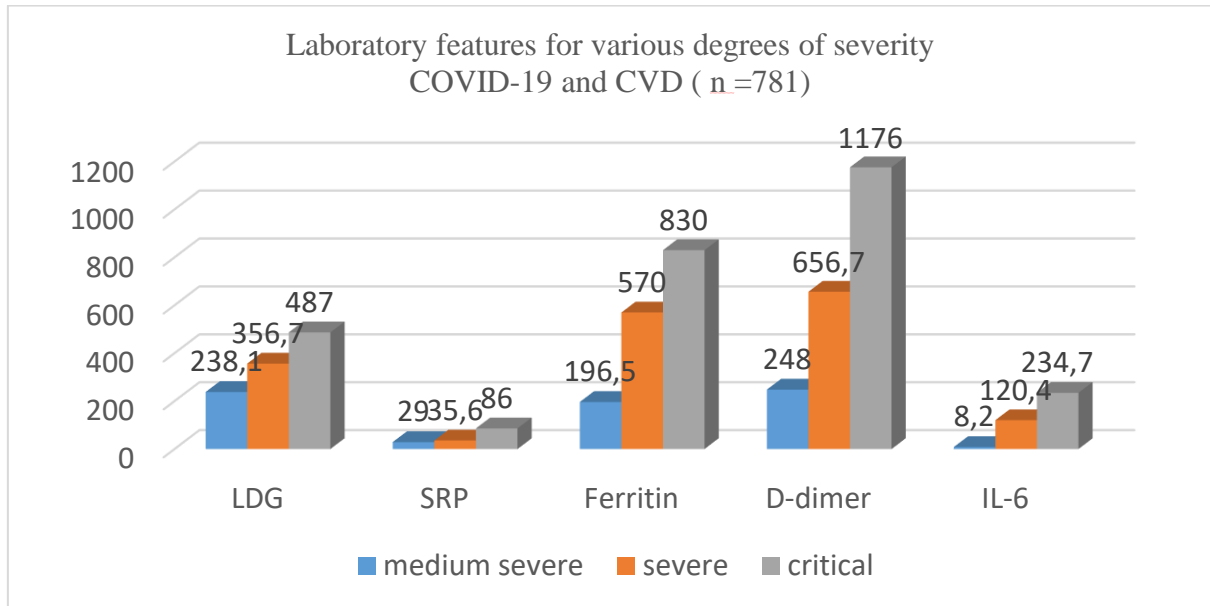


Histogram 6. Structure and frequency of COVID-19 complications in the study groups (control group).



Histogram 7. Laboratory features for various degrees of severity

COVID-19 and CVD (n =781)



ТИТУЛЬНЫЙ ЛИСТ_МЕТАДААННЫЕ**Блок 1. Информация об авторе ответственном за переписку**

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Блок 3. Метаданные статьи

THE IMPACT OF CONCOMITANT DISEASES DURING SARS-COV-2 INFECTION IN RESIDENTS OF KAZAKHSTAN

ВЛИЯНИЕ СОПУТСТВУЮЩИХ ЗАБОЛЕВАНИЙ ПРИ ИНФЕКЦИИ SARS-COV-2 У ЖИТЕЛЕЙ КАЗАХСТАНА

Сокращенное название статьи для верхнего колонтитула:

Impact of comorbidities in COVID-19

Влияние сопутствующих заболеваний при COVID-19

Ключевые слова: SARS-CoV-2, биомаркеры крови, COVID-19, коморбидная патология, артериальная гипертензия

Keywords: SARS - CoV -2, blood biomarkers, COVID -19, comorbid pathology, arterial hypertension.

Оригинальные статьи.

Количество страниц текста – 6, количество таблиц – 2, количество рисунков – 7.

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