



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Follow-up of patients with suspected COVID-19



Seguimiento de pacientes con sospecha de COVID-19

Dear Editor,

We would like to share ideas on Assessment and follow-up of patients with suspected COVID-19 in the first pandemic wave in an urban area of Andalusia (Spain).¹ "Pérez-Milena et al. concluded that "Population chose to be attended in Primary Care during the pandemic first related to a lack of social support but not with greater clinical severity."¹ Application of new communication technology is helpful for clinical case management and follow-up during COVID-19 pandemic. In primary care setting, we appreciated the use of basic communication via phone as proposed by Pérez-Milena et al. The problem of complex communication by complex communication media such as Internet App might be underrecognized and standard phone follow-up can be the solution. Additionally, for some specific groups, such as cases with psychotic disorders, basic phone might bring trust and confidence for the patients.² However, there are still some groups of patients that might also not accessible to phone. the active service delivery during COVID-19 pandemic is also an important challenge. In our setting, several approaches, ranging from simple phone follow-up, App follow-up and active follow-up in community, are implemented for supporting primary care service.

Conflict of interest

None of the authors have potential conflicts of interest to be disclosed.

References

1. Pérez-Milena A, Leyva-Alarcón A, Barquero-Padilla RM, Peña-Arredondo M, Navarrete-Espinosa C, Rosa-Garrido C. Assessment and follow-up of patients with suspected COVID-19 in the first pandemic wave in an urban area of Andalusia (Spain). *Aten Primaria*. 2021;54:102156, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.aprim.2021.102156>. Online ahead of print.
2. Naik SS, Rahul P, Harihara S, Pahuja E, Chithra NK, Ramachandriah S, et al. Telephonic follow-up during COVID-19 to maintain continuity of care for persons with psychiatric disorders. *Asian J Psychiatr*. 2021;57:102564.

Rujittika Mungmunpantipantip^{a,*}, Viroj Wiwanitkit^b

^a Private Academic Consultant, Member of the Spanish Society of Clinical, Family and Community Pharmacy (SEFAC), Bangkok, Thailand

^b Honorary Professor, Dr DY Patil University, Member of the Spanish Society of Clinical, Family and Community Pharmacy (SEFAC), Pune, India

* Corresponding author.

E-mail address: rujittika@gmail.com (R. Mungmunpantipantip).