

Platelet count among the patients with novel coronavirus 2019 infection: An observation on 46 cases

Dear Editor,

Novel coronavirus 2019 infection is a new emerging infectious disease firstly emerged in China in December 2019.^[1] The patients usually have febrile illness with lung problem.^[1,2] At present, this new disease is already imported to many countries such as Thailand, therefore, it is considered as an important public health threat at present.^[3] Hematological alteration in this new disease is an interesting topic. In the previous similar emerging coronavirus infection, Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), thrombocytopenia is an important clinical problem.^[4]

Here, the authors retrospectively assessed on available data on 46 infected coronavirus cases (31 males and 15 females, aged between 25- and 74-year-old) during the 1st month of disease outbreak (December 2019 to January 2020) in China and Thailand.^[1-3] The main focused studied parameter is platelet count. Based on the analysis, the average platelet count is equal to $146.62 \pm 65.75 \times 10^9/L$ (min $136.93 \times 10^9/L$; max $156.3 \times 10^9/L$). The frequency of thrombocytopenia is 4.35%. Therefore, there is low platelet count among some patients with novel coronavirus 2019 infection. This can imply the possible similar problem of thrombocytopenia among this new coronavirus infection, similar to the previous observation in MERS.^[4]

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Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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