Peer-Review Report

Peer Review of “A Framework for a Statistical Characterization of Epidemic Cycles: COVID-19 Case Study”

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KEYWORDS

COVID-19; pandemics; infection control; models; experimental; longitudinal studies; statistical modeling; epidemiology

This is a peer review submitted for the paper “A Framework for a Statistical Characterization of Epidemic Cycles: COVID-19 Case Study.”

Round 1 Review

General Comments

It seems that the aim of this submission [1] is to report a study conducted to show an approach for normalization epidemic curves from various countries using retrospective data, particularly from the city of Rio de Janeiro. The submission lacks a recognized structure to present a study with its aim and details of data sources. Furthermore, the submission includes some terms that are not appropriate for describing infectious disease in a population such as contamination and contamination cycle instead of exposure and infection rates.

Specific Comments

1. The aim of the study should be stated in a precise statement with supportive ways to test the underlying hypothesis;
2. Details of the analytical approach should be given with its assumptions and limitations;
3. Sources of the data with overall reliability can be detailed;
4. Use the appropriate and conventional terms of infectious diseases by checking the contents of the submission with reliable epidemiologists.

Round 2 Review

I am satisfied with the modifications to the new version. Almost all of my concerns were addressed in the new version. I will let the readers decide about the validity of the model since the authors elaborated on the approach.

Conflicts of Interest

None declared.

Reference

1. De Carvalho EA, De Carvalho RA. A Framework for a Statistical Characterization of Epidemic Cycles: COVID-19 Case Study. JMIRx Med 2021 Mar 18;2(1):e22617 [FREE Full text] [doi: 10.2196/22617]

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