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ICU admission and favipiravir

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To the Editor,

We would like to share ideas on “ICU admission rates in Istanbul following the addition of favipiravir to the national COVID-19 treatment protocol” [1]. Guner et al. [1] concluded that “The addition of favipiravir to the national

COVID-19 treatment protocol may explain this rapid decrease in the rate of ICU admissions and intubation”. The favipiravir is the new hope for COVID-10 outbreak containment. However, the insufficiency and unavailability are main problems in many developing countries.

The decreased ICU described by Guner et al. [2] might be an effect of favipiravir use. However, it might also be the effect by other factors such as other infectious disease control process, a good supportive treatment, and seasonal fluctuation of disease incidence. Finally, a recent report also showed that an additional use of hydroxychloroquine plus favipiravir can provide a better outcome than favipiravir alone.

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