## Supplementary Appendix 2. List of excluded references after full-text review

| Number | Title | First author | Journal (Year) | Main reason for exclusion |
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| 1 | Clinical Characteristics and Risk Factors for Fatal Outcome in Patients with 2019-Coronavirus Infected Disease (COVID-19) in Wuhan | Chen M. et al. | SSRN (2020) | data source is likely to be same with the included study of Zhang et al. |
| 2 | ACE inhibitors, AT1 receptor blockers and COVID-19: clinical epidemiology evidences for a continuation of treatments. The ACER-COVID study | Dauchet L. et al. | medRxiv (2020) | The use of ACE inhibitor or ARB was not evaluated according to disease severity or mortality. |
| 3 | ACE inhibitors, ARBs and other anti-hypertensive drugs and novel COVID-19: An association study from the COVID Symptom tracker app in 2,215,386 individuals | Dooley HC. et al. | SSRN (2020) | Disease severity or mortality data was not available. |
| 4 | Cardiovascular Implications of Fatal Outcomes of Patients With Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) | Guo T. et al. | JAMA Cardiol. (2020) | data source is likely to be same with the included study of Zhang et al. |
| 5 | The Role of Angiotensin Converting Enzyme 2 in Coronaviruses/Influenza Viruses and Cardiovascular Disease | Li C. et al. | SSRN (2020) | No specific data on COVID-19 was available |
| 6 | Anti-hypertensive Angiotensin II receptor blockers associated to mitigation of disease severity in elderly COVID-19 patients | Liu Y. et al. | medRxiv (2020) | The data source is likely to be same with the included study of Meng et al. |
| 7 | The Effect of Psychological Support for the Relatives of Intensive Care Unit Patients on Cadaveric Organ Donation Rate | Liu Y. et al. | Sci China Life Sci. (2020) | Disease severity or mortality data was not available. |
| 8 | Clinical and biochemical indexes from 2019-nCoV infected patients linked to viral loads and lung injury | Liu Y. et al. | Sci China Life Sci. (2020) | Disease severity or mortality data was not available. |
| 9 | Clinical presentation and initial management critically ill patients with severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) infection in Brescia, Italy | Piva S. et al. | J Crit Care (2020) | The use of ACE inhibitor or ARB was not evaluated according to disease severity or mortality. |
| 10 | Outcomes in Patients with COVID-19 Infection Taking ACEI/ARB | Rico-Mesa JS. et al. | Curr Cardiol Rep. (2020) | The use of ACE inhibitor or ARB was not evaluated according to disease severity or mortality. |
| 11 | Clinical characteristics associated with COVID-19 severity in California | Samuel R. et al. | medRxiv (2020) | The use of ACE inhibitor or ARB was not evaluated according to disease severity or mortality. |
| 12 | Comorbidities in COVID-19: Outcomes in hypertensive cohort and controversies with renin angiotensin system blockers | Singh AK. et al. | Diabetes Metab Syndr. (2020) | This is a pooled analysis using results from other studies. |
| 13 | Chronic Use of Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors and Angiotensin II Receptor Blockers Is High Among Intensive Care Unit Patients With Non–COVID-19 Sepsis but Carries a Moderately Increased Risk of Death | Sunden-Cullberg J. et al. | Hypertension (2020) | The patients diagnosed with COVID-19 were not evaluated. |
| 14 | Hypertension and Diabetes Delay the Viral Clearance in COVID-19 Patients | Xiaoping C. et al. | medRxiv (2020) | Although researchers found that angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 was related with delayed viral clearance, the data on effect of ACE inhibitor or ARB was not available. |
| 15 | The Role of Angiotensin Converting Enzyme 2 in the Gastrointestinal Infection Risk and Potential Fecal Oral-Transmission Route of 2019-nCoV | Xing yong C. et al. | SSRN (2020) | The use of ACE inhibitor or ARB was not evaluated according to disease severity or |

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