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Autoimmunity to annexin A2 predicts mortality among hospitalised COVID-19 patients

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Shareable abstract (@ERSpublications)
Levels of anti-annexin A2 antibodies at admission strongly predicted mortality among hospitalised COVID-19 patients. Given its critical protective function in the lung, annexin A2 antagonism may play an important role in the pathophysiology of COVID-19. https://bit.ly/2UMPr9w

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To the Editor:

The pathophysiology of severe coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) has largely been attributed to a hyper-inflammatory response without a clear indication of the underlying mechanism [1]. There is a characteristic delay in the onset of respiratory distress, approximately 6 to 12 days after the start of symptoms, which is somewhat atypical for other severe viral respiratory infections [2]. Several theories have been proposed for this delay, such as an indolent infection or viral persistence. However, data from viral cultures of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (not PCR) demonstrate a lack of positive cultures beyond day 9 of illness [3].