

Analysis of the initial cluster of infections suggests that the infected individuals had a common exposure point, a seafood market in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China (Fig. 6). The restaurants of this market are well-known for providing different types of wild animals for human consumption (71). The Huanan South China Seafood Market also sells live animals, such as poultry, bats, snakes, and marmots (72). This might be the point where zoonotic (animal-to- human) transmission occurred (71). Although SARS-CoV-2 is alleged to have originated from an animal host (zoonotic origin) with further human-to- human transmission (Fig. 6), the likelihood of foodborne transmission should be ruled out with further investigations, since it is a latent possibility (1). Additionally, other potential and expected routes would be associated with transmission, as in other respiratory viruses, by direct contact, such as shaking contaminated hands, or by direct contact with contaminated surfaces (Fig. 6). Still, whether blood transfusion and organ transplantation (276), as well as transplacental and perinatal routes, are possible routes for SARS-CoV-2 transmission needs to be determined (Fig. 6).