COVID-19 Critical Intelligence Unit

Daily evidence digest

15 February 2021

The daily evidence digest collates recently released reports and evidence – provision of these links does not imply endorsement nor recommendation.

Face mask efficacy, COVID-19 detection by dogs, the pandemic's first year

Peer reviewed journals featured:

- Systematic reviews on:
 - The efficacy of face masks in preventing viral transmission <u>here</u> and associated commentary <u>here</u>
 - Methodological quality of COVID-19 clinical research published to May 14 2020 here
- A narrative review on COVID-19 detection by dogs <u>here</u>
- A cohort study on screening college students for SARS-CoV-2 comparing CRISPR-based assay and reverse transcriptase-PCR test here
- An editorial on SARS-CoV-2 variants here
- Commentary on the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic here

Letters and correspondence discussed:

Emergence of a novel SARS-CoV-2 variant in Southern California here

Guidance and reports

- The National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce published new and updated recommendations and clinical flowcharts <u>here</u>
- The European Association for the Study of the Liver released a position paper recommending COVID-19 vaccination for patients with chronic liver diseases, hepatobiliary cancer, and for liver transplant recipients here
- The Australian Department of Health released COVID-19 vaccine information and resources for aged care providers <u>here</u>

News and blogs

- Highlights from livestream interviews on COVID-19 vaccine doses and virus variants here
- An interview with former UK health Secretary Jeremy Hunt on NHS workforce here
- Living with COVID-19 in the long term <u>here</u>

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