COVID-19 Critical Intelligence Unit

Daily evidence digest

17 February 2021

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

Diagnostic tests, variants, effectiveness of Pfizer vaccine, a decision framework to guide social and movement measures

Peer reviewed journals featured:

- A review article on diagnostics for SARS-CoV-2 infections <u>here</u>
- Observational studies on:
 - o SARS-CoV-2 re-infection risk in Austria here
 - o Four SARS-CoV-2 sub strains and novel variants in the US here
 - Elective orthopaedic surgery during COVID-19 in the US here
- A survey of medical residents exposed to COVID-19 in Qatar here

Letters and correspondence discussed:

- COVID-19 vaccination for patients with cancer <u>here</u>
- Evaluating COVID-19 contact-tracing apps here
- Pooling methods for molecular assay samples here

Pre-peer review articles featured:

- The escape of SARS-CoV-2 variants B.1.351 (South Africa) and B.1.1.248 (Brazil) from antibody responses <u>here</u>
- Implementation of an reverse transcription-PCR assay to detect SARS-CoV-2 N501Y variants (Kent / UK, South Africa, Brazil) here
- Estimating real-world effectiveness of the BNT162b2 vaccine(Pfizer) in Israel here

Guidance and reports

- The World Health Organization and OECD jointly published a five-step decision framework for calibrating social and movement measures during COVID-19 here
- The UK National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) published updated COVID-19 guidelines on:
 - o Critical care in adults here
 - Delivery of systemic anticancer treatments <u>here</u>
 - Delivery of radiotherapy here
 - Hematopoietic stem cell transplantation <u>here</u>





News and blogs

• Is asymptomatic transmission in young people driving the current wave of the pandemic? here

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Emerging evidence on vaccines and variants of concern is incorporated daily into Living Evidence Tables <u>available here</u>

