COVID-19 Critical Intelligence Unit

Daily evidence digest

17 November 2021

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

SARS-CoV-2 antigen tests, COVID-19 treatment for pregnant women, entering Australia's third year with COVID-19

Peer reviewed journals featured:

- · Systematic reviews on:
 - Diagnostic accuracy of SARS-CoV-2 antigen tests for community transmission screening <u>here</u>
 - Treatment of COVID-19 in pregnant women <u>here</u>
 - The use of tocilizumab in COVID-19 patients here
- Observational studies on:
 - Intensivists' views on increasing ICU capacity to accommodate higher demand during COVID-19 in Australia and New Zealand here
 - Mortality risk in COVID-19 patients on selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor antidepressants <u>here</u> and associated commentary <u>here</u>
 - Impact of COVID-19 lockdowns on hospital presentations and admissions in the context of low community transmission in Melbourne here
 - Seroprevalence of unidentified SARS-CoV-2 infection in Hong Kong here
- Editorials on:
 - o Entering Australia's third year with COVID-19 here
 - o The implications of living with COVID-19 for intensive care in Australia here

Letters and correspondence discussed:

 Outcomes for COVID-19 patients admitted to Australian ICU during the first four months of the pandemic <u>here</u>

Pre-peer review articles featured:

- Estimation of R0 for the spread of SARS-CoV-2 in Germany from excess mortality here
- Comirnaty (Pfizer) booster effectiveness against COVID-19 related symptoms in England here
- Finger stick blood test to assess post vaccination SARS-CoV-2 neutralising antibody response against variants <u>here</u>
- Case series of thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome after COVID-19 vaccination here



Guidance and reports

- The World Health Organization published its COVID-19 clinical management modules on corticosteroids here, IL-6 receptor blockers here, and introduction to therapeutics here
- The UK Security Agency published an update on SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern and variants under investigation here

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Living Evidence Tables

Living Evidence tables are up-to-date summaries of emerging evidence. Tables are available on <u>COVID-19 transmission</u>, SARS-CoV-2 <u>vaccines</u>, and <u>variants</u> of concern, <u>post-acute sequelae of COVID-19 (PASC)</u>, <u>surgery and COVID-19</u>, <u>rapid testing and risk mitigation strategies</u>.

