

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

Molnupiravir, remdesivir, booster protection, neutralisation and severity of Omicron

Peer reviewed journals featured:

- Randomised controlled trials of:
 - Molnupiravir for oral treatment of COVID-19 in non-hospitalised patients [here](#)
 - Early remdesivir to prevent progression to severe COVID-19 in outpatients [here](#)
- Observational studies on:
 - COVID-19 vaccination effectiveness in the US Veterans Affairs healthcare system [here](#)
 - Two-dose Vaxzevria (AstraZeneca) vaccine protection against COVID-19 hospital admissions and deaths over time [here](#)
 - Comirnaty (Pfizer) booster and COVID-19 mortality [here](#)
 - COVID-19 protection by Comirnaty (Pfizer) booster across age groups [here](#)
- Commentary on:
 - Risk heterogeneity and the illusion of waning vaccine efficacy [here](#)
 - The evolving COVID-19 pandemic in the Winter of Omicron [here](#)

Pre-peer review articles featured:

- Projected epidemiological consequences of the Omicron variant in England [here](#)
- Potential severity, mitigation, and control of Omicron waves depending on immunity status [here](#)
- Pseudotyped Omicron variant exhibits significant escape from neutralisation induced by a third booster dose of vaccination [here](#)
- Neutralisation and stability of Omicron variant [here](#)
- Superior immunogenicity and effectiveness of the 3rd Comirnaty (Pfizer) vaccine dose [here](#)
- Breakthrough infections during periods of circulating Beta, Delta, and Omicron variants among healthcare workers in the Sisonke vaccine trial, South Africa [here](#)
- SARS-CoV-2 transmission dynamics in South Africa and epidemiological characteristics of the Omicron variant [here](#)
- A rapid rise in paediatric COVID-19 hospitalisations in the early stages of the Omicron wave, Tshwane District, South Africa [here](#)
- Increased risk of Omicron infection compared to Delta in vaccinated and previously infected people in the Netherlands [here](#)
- Early assessment of the clinical severity of the Omicron variant in South Africa [here](#)

- Omicron mutations enhance infectivity and reduce antibody neutralisation of SARS-CoV-2 virus-like particles [here](#)
- South African population immunity and severe COVID-19 with Omicron variant [here](#)
- mRNA vaccine effectiveness against Omicron or Delta variants after two-dose or booster [here](#)
- Rapid epidemic expansion of the Omicron variant in southern Africa [here](#)
- Diminished neutralisation responses to Omicron after mRNA or vector-based vaccinations [here](#)
- Protection from Comirnaty (Pfizer) booster and fresh 2-dose vaccines [here](#)
- Different booster regimens for preventing infection and adverse outcomes in Puerto Rico [here](#)
- Outpatient therapies for COVID-19 [here](#)

Guidance and reports

- The World Health Organization published:
 - An updated Technical Brief on enhancing readiness for Omicron (B.1.1.529) [here](#)
 - Guidance on mask use by health workers, in light of the Omicron variant of concern [here](#)
 - COVID-19 infection prevention and control guidance on mask use in community settings [here](#)
- The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control published:
 - Its weekly epidemiological update on Omicron variant of concern (VOC) [here](#)
 - A risk assessment on further emergence of Omicron variant [here](#)
- Imperial College published a report on hospitalisation risk for Omicron cases in England [here](#)

News and blogs

- How severe are Omicron infections? [here](#)
- Omicron overpowers key COVID-19 antibody treatments in early tests [here](#)
- How COVID-19 vaccines shaped 2021 in eight powerful charts [here](#)
- Vaccination doesn't eliminate Delta variant household transmission [here](#)
- Health leaders advise the public to reduce social contacts to keep NHS running [here](#)

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Living Evidence Tables

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