COVID-19 Critical Intelligence Unit

Daily evidence digest

15 February 2022

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

Casirivimab, imdevimab and favipiravir, ATAGI guidance, Omicron sublineages

Peer reviewed journals featured:

- · Randomised controlled trials of:
 - Casirivimab and imdevimab in COVID-19 patients admitted to hospital (RECOVERY)
 here and associated commentary here
 - o Favipiravir in adults with mild COVID-19 here
- Observational studies on:
 - Effectiveness of mRNA vaccines and waning protection against SARS-CoV-2 infection and severe COVID-19 during the Delta variant outbreak in Italy here
 - COVID-19 risk following a ring vaccination intervention to address Alpha variant transmission in Montreal, Canada here
 - A data-driven testing program for the detection of COVID-19 cases <u>here</u>
 - Early prediction of COVID-19 pneumonia prognosis using age-adjusted Charlson Comorbidity Index, CRB score, and baseline oxygen saturation here
 - Herpes zoster related hospitalisation after inactivated (CoronaVac) and mRNA (Comirnaty) vaccination here
 - o COVID-19 incidence and mortality rates associated with school reopening in Brazil here
- Commentary on mRNA vaccine development for infectious diseases <u>here</u>

Letters and correspondence discussed:

Homologous and heterologous vaccine boosters in Singapore <u>here</u>

Pre-peer review articles featured:

- Long term antibody response to SARS-CoV-2 in children here
- SARS-CoV-2 neutralisation after mRNA vaccination and variant breakthrough infection here
- Antiviral activity of remdesivir and GS-441524 against Delta, Omicron, and other variants here
- Rapid antigen self-tests compared to RT-PCR from 1015 asymptomatic volunteers here
- Omicron and sub-variants (BA.1, BA.2 and BA.3) spike infectivity and pathogenicity here
- Persistence of SARS-CoV-2 immunity, Omicron's footprints, and projections of epidemic resurgences in South Africa <u>here</u>



Guidance and reports

- The World Health Organization released its latest Bulletin with articles on COVID-19 responses here
- The Australian Technical Advisory Group Immunisation (ATAGI) published guidance on:
 - o Definitions of 'up-to-date' status for COVID-19 vaccination here
 - o Comirnaty (Pfizer) vaccine as a booster dose in adolescents aged 16-17 years here
 - o The use of Novavax COVID-19 vaccine (Nuvaxovid) here
- The UK Health Security Agency published updates of its COVID-19 vaccine surveillance report here and SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern and variants under investigation here
- The BMJ updated its best practice guide on COVID-19 here

News and blogs

- What we know about Omicron sublineages <u>here</u>
- Pandemic has harmed cancer outcomes and widened inequalities in the US here
- A podcast about African scientists copying the Spikevax (Moderna) vaccine here
- WHO prequalifies tocilizumab to treat COVID-19 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</u> (PASC), surgery and COVID-19, rapid testing and risk mitigation strategies.



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