COVID-19 Critical Intelligence Unit

Daily evidence digest

21 March 2022

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

SARS-CoV-2 transmission from mother-to-child, COVID-19 and cardiovascular disease, hospitalisation and death with Omicron and Delta

Peer reviewed journals featured:

- A systematic review on SARS-CoV-2 positivity in offspring and timing of mother-to-child transmission here and associated editorial here
- Randomised trials of:
 - o Favipiravir plus interferon-beta vs lopinavir/ritonavir plus interferon-beta here
 - Virtual reality to reduce COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy <u>here</u>
- A narrative review of COVID-19 and cardiovascular disease here
- Observational studies on:
 - The risks of hospitalisation and death associated with Omicron and Delta variants in England <u>here</u>
 - COVID19 vaccine-induced immune responses and breakthrough infections in inflammatory bowel disease patients treated with infliximab and vedolizumab here
 - Association between COVID-19 vaccination, SARS-CoV-2 infection, and risk of immune mediated neurological events <u>here</u> and associated editorial <u>here</u>
 - Durability of Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine in preventing COVID-19 infections and hospitalisations during the Delta surge in the US here
 - Cerebral venous thrombosis incidence after SARS-CoV-2 infection vs mRNA vaccination in Singapore here
 - Trends in hospitalisations for ambulatory care—sensitive conditions during COVID-19 in Michigan <u>here</u>
- · Modelling studies exploring:
 - Reactive vaccination of workplaces and schools against COVID-19 here
 - Estimates of COVID-19's generation interval based on incidence rate, and optimal quarantine duration here

Letters and correspondence discussed:

• Myocarditis following a third Comirnaty (Pfizer) vaccine dose in military recruits in Israel here



Pre-peer review articles featured:

Omicron BA.1 and BA.2 neutralising activity elicited in humans by seven vaccines here

Guidance and reports

- The World Health Organization published:
 - A guide on risk communication and community engagement for COVID-19 vaccination here
 - FAQs on the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS) sentinel surveillance for COVID-19 here
- The National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce released recommendations on:
 - Disease-modifying treatments for pregnant or breastfeeding women with COVID-19 here
 - o Risk classification tool for adults with mild COVID-19 here
 - o Ivermectin FAQs here

News and blogs

- Scientists struggle to probe COVID-19's origins amid sparse data from China here
- Are chilblains or 'COVID toes' actually caused by the coronavirus? here
- Evusheld (AstraZeneca) is approved in UK for prophylaxis in immunocompromised people <u>here</u>
- Pfizer asks the US regulator to authorise fourth vaccine dose for over 65s here
- Hong Kong reports world's highest death rate as zero-covid strategy fails here
- The TGA is undertaking a post-market review of COVID-19 tests to detect emerging SARS-CoV-2 variants <u>here</u>

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Living Evidence Tables

Living Evidence tables are up-to-date summaries of emerging evidence. Tables are available on 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</u> and <u>risk mitigation strategies</u>.



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