COVID-19 Critical Intelligence Unit

Daily evidence digest

22 March 2022

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

Active immunotherapy in cancer patients with COVID-19, socio-economic factors and incidence, two doses of Comirnaty (Pfizer) in 5-15 year olds

Peer reviewed journals featured:

- A systematic review on the association of active immunotherapy with outcomes in cancer patients with COVID-19 <u>here</u>
- Randomised trials of:
 - o Methylprednisolone pulses for COVID-19 inpatients without respiratory failure here
 - Regdanvimab (CT-P59) in outpatients with mild-to-moderate COVID-19 <u>here</u>
 - o Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine in healthcare workers in South Africa here
- A narrative review on SARS-CoV-2 infection and COVID-19 vaccination in pregnancy here
- Observational studies on:
 - o Area socio-economic factors and local SARS-CoV-2 infection incidence in Victoria here
 - o Fragility of statistically significant results in randomised clinical trials for COVID-19 here
 - Neutralisation sensitivity of the Omicron variant here
- A modelling study on age-varying susceptibility to the Delta variant <u>here</u>
- Commentary on COVID-19 vaccination and access to the US organ transplant waiting list here

Letters and correspondence discussed:

- Alcohol-related deaths during COVID-19 in the US <u>here</u>
- Effectiveness of single vs repeated rapid antigen tests in asymptomatic persons in a workplace here

Pre-peer review articles featured:

- Hospital length of stay in a mixed Omicron and Delta epidemic in NSW here
- The validity of reported post-acute health outcomes in children with SARS-CoV-2 infection here
- Negative antigen rapid diagnostic in RT-qPCR positive samples and the likelihood of infectious viruses in the nasopharynx <u>here</u>
- Monoclonal antibody and antiviral therapy for mild-to-moderate COVID-19 paediatric patients here
- Protection of prior natural infection compared to mRNA vaccination against COVID-19 in Qatar <u>here</u>
- Patient-reported respiratory outcome measures in hospitalised COVID-19 adults <u>here</u>
- The relative performance of oropharyngeal swabs, nasopharyngeal swabs, and saliva for RT-PCR based detection of Delta and Omicron variants <u>here</u>



Guidance and reports

- The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention published articles on:
 - Effectiveness of mRNA vaccination in preventing COVID-19–associated invasive mechanical ventilation and death in the US <u>here</u>
 - Effectiveness of two doses of Comirnaty (Pfizer) vaccine in preventing infection in children and adolescents aged 5–15 years <u>here</u>
- The Canadian National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools updated its review on best practices for risk communication and strategies to mitigate risk behaviours <u>here</u>

News and blogs

- Vaccines protect against infection from Omicron BA.2 but not for long here
- Is the UK heading for another Omicron wave? <u>here</u>
- Updated PPE guidance puts NHS staff at risk of infection here
- A podcast on how vaccine complacency is plaguing 'COVID zero' strategies here

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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</u> and <u>COVID-19</u>, <u>rapid testing</u> and <u>risk mitigation strategies</u>.



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