COVID-19 Critical Intelligence Unit

Daily evidence digest

12 April 2022

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

Global, regional and national daily and cumulative SARS-CoV-2 infections, COVID-19 vaccine waning and the effectiveness of boosters, BA.4 and BA.5

Peer reviewed journals featured:

- A randomised controlled trial of additional heterologous vs homologous booster in immunosuppressed patients without SARS-CoV-2 seroconversion after mRNA vaccination here
- Observational studies on:
 - Estimating global, regional, and national daily and cumulative SARS-CoV-2 infections here and associated commentary here
 - o COVID-19 vaccine waning, effectiveness, and side-effects of boosters here
 - Breakthrough SARS-CoV-2 infections, hospitalisations, and mortality in vaccinated cancer patients in the US <u>here</u>
 - Tracking turnover among healthcare workers during COVID-19 in the US <u>here</u>
 - Infectious viral load in people infected with ancestral, Delta or Omicron variant here
 - Time trend of social inequalities in psychological distress among UK young adults before and during the pandemic <u>here</u>
 - o SARS-CoV-2 transmission into and within immigrant households in Norway here
 - Estimate odds of death within 28 days of positive SARS-CoV-2 test before vaccination for residents of long-term care facilities in England here
 - Occupation and COVID-19 diagnosis, hospitalisation, and ICU admission in foreign-born and Swedish-born employees <u>here</u>
 - Immunogenicity of Comirnaty (Pfizer) vaccine against Alpha and Delta variants in patients with systemic inflammatory diseases <u>here</u>
 - COVID-19 vaccine safety in people with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases here
 - Validation of a rapid, saliva-based, and ultra-sensitive SARS-CoV-2 screening system for pandemic-scale infection surveillance <u>here</u>
- Commentary on:
 - Making PPE safe and dignified for women health workers <u>here</u>
 - o Ending free testing in the UK is a mistake here
 - o Research priorities for mental health in schools in the wake of COVID-19 here



Letters and correspondence discussed:

- Attenuated response to fourth dose COVID-19 vaccination in autoimmune disease patients here
- Acute-on-chronic liver failure (ACLF) precipitated by severe alcoholic hepatitis here
- COVID-19 vaccination and HIV-1 acquisition <u>here</u>
- Antibiotic prescriptions associated with COVID-19 outpatient visits in the US here
- Systemic corticosteroid COVID-19 use in US outpatient settings here

Pre-peer review featured articles:

Comirnaty (Pfizer) vaccine effectiveness against Omicron and Delta outcomes in adolescents here

Guidance and reports

- The World Health Organization updated its policy brief on injection safety in the context of COVID-19 vaccination here
- The UK Health Security Agency published an update on SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern and variants under investigation – featuring information on BA.4 and BA.5 and Recombinant XE here

News and blogs

• Symptomatic infection with Omicron variant is milder and shorter than with Delta 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 COVID-19, rapid testing and risk mitigation strategies.



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