COVID-19 Critical Intelligence Unit

Evidence digest

29 July 2022

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

Smell and taste dysfunction in COVID-19 patients, nasal vaccines, preventive medication for COVID-19 infection

Peer reviewed journals featured:

- A systematic review on the prognosis and persistence of smell and taste dysfunction in COVID-19
 patients here, associated editorial here and commentary here
- A randomised trial of text message reminders and vaccine reservations to support uptake here
- A narrative review on isolation facilities for COVID-19 here
- Observational studies on:
 - Immune response to Comirnaty (Pfizer) vaccine in patients with autoimmune inflammatory rheumatic diseases <u>here</u>
 - Environmental and societal factors associated with COVID-19-related death in people with rheumatic disease <u>here</u>
 - mRNA vaccine booster protection against Omicron in patients with autoimmune rheumatic diseases <u>here</u>
 - o Reversals of COVID-19 vaccination hesitancy among Japanese people here and here
 - o Tracking the pandemic using wastewater monitoring here and here
 - Symptoms and risk factors for long COVID in non-hospitalised adults here
 - o In vitro activity of therapeutic antibodies against Omicron BA.1, BA.2 and BA.5 here
 - o Post-acute symptoms and health problems after SARS-CoV-2 infection in Denmark here
 - Risk of severe COVID-19 infection among adults with prior exposure to children here
 - o Vaccination effectiveness after COVID-19 recovery in preventing reinfection here
 - o Mapping the Huanan market in Wuhan as the early epicentre of the pandemic here
 - Antibody responses in children following mRNA COVID-19 vaccination <u>here</u>
 - Post-COVID-19 conditions among children 90 days after SARS-CoV-2 infection here
- An editorial on nasal vaccines for COVID-19 <u>here</u>
- · Commentary on an effective international pandemic treaty and accountability here
- A JAMA patient guide to preventive medication for COVID-19 infection here

Letters and correspondence discussed:

- Trends in diabetes incidence among children during COVID-19 in Ontario here
- Vaccination and acute myocardial infarction and ischaemic stroke after COVID-19 infection here
- Safety and adverse events in long-term care residents receiving a third mRNA booster dose here



- Antibody titres after third and fourth Comirnaty (Pfizer) doses in older adults <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>
- Masks for preventing respiratory virus infections including SARS-CoV-2 here
- Immunogenicity and safety of beta-adjuvanted recombinant booster vaccine here

Pre-peer review articles featured:

- Durability of the neutralising antibody response to mRNA booster against Omicron BA.2.12.1 and BA.4/5 variants here
- Duration of Omicron BA.5 neutralisation in sera and nasal swabs from vaccinated individuals here
- Lowered quality of life in long COVID associated with inflammatory processes <u>here</u>
- Omicron BA.5 vaccine breakthrough risk and severity compared with BA.2 here
- Primary Omicron infection, antibody responses and cellular immunity in children here
- Evasion of neutralising antibodies by Omicron sublineage BA.2.75 here
- COVID-19 and long term peripheral nerve demyelination and axonal loss here

Guidance and reports

- The World Health Organisation published:
 - Its weekly epidemiological report on COVID-19 <u>here</u>
 - o Guidance on public health surveillance for COVID-19 here and case definition here
- The National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce released updated recommendations and clinical flowcharts here
- The UK Health Security Agency published an update on SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern and variants under investigation here
- The UNSW Kirby Institute released an updated report on seroprevalence of SARS-CoV-2-specific antibodies among Australian blood donors <u>here</u>

News and blogs

- Prior Omicron infection protects against BA.4 and BA.5 variants here
- Hair loss and sexual dysfunction are among wider symptoms of long COVID here
- COVID-19 infection raises risk of diabetes and heart disease diagnoses in following weeks here
- China approves first homegrown COVID-19 antiviral <u>here</u>
- How long is COVID-19 infectious? here
- Pandemic drives largest drop in international childhood vaccinations in 30 years 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, and post-acute sequelae of COVID-19 (long COVID).



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