

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

COVID-19 and excess mortality, inflammatory bowel disease and COVID-19 outcomes, Omicron BQ.1 and XBB

Peer reviewed journals featured:

- Meta-analyses and systematic reviews on:
 - Inflammatory bowel disease and COVID-19 outcomes [here](#)
 - Effectiveness of heterologous and homologous COVID-19 vaccine regimens [here](#)
 - Early versus late intubation in patients with acute respiratory distress syndrome [here](#)
 - Awake prone positioning in COVID-19 hypoxemic respiratory failure [here](#) and commentary [here](#)
- Observational studies on:
 - Excess mortality associated with the pandemic [here](#) and commentary [here](#) and [here](#)
 - Risks of postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome diagnoses after COVID-19 vaccination and SARS-Cov-2 infection [here](#) and associated commentary [here](#)
 - Molecular states during COVID-19 reveal distinct aetiologies of long-term sequelae [here](#)
 - Alarming antibody evasion properties of rising BQ and XBB subvariants [here](#)
 - Nirmatrelvir plus ritonavir (Paxlovid) for early COVID-19 in a US health system [here](#)
 - Risk factors and symptoms associated with COVID-19 and rhinovirus test positivity [here](#)
 - The utility of telemedicine in managing patients after COVID-19 [here](#)
 - Effectiveness of BNT162b2 vaccination in prevention of hospitalisations and severe disease in adults with Delta (B.1.617.2) and Omicron (B.1.1.529) variants [here](#)
 - Fourth BNT162b2 and mRNA1273 COVID-19 vaccine doses; 3-month follow-up [here](#)
 - SARS-CoV-2 infection and persistence in the human body and brain at autopsy [here](#)
 - Inverse association between blood pressure and pulse oximetry accuracy [here](#)
 - Post COVID-19 irritable bowel syndrome [here](#)
- Commentary on:
 - COVID-19 vaccination in individuals with inflammatory rheumatic diseases [here](#)
 - Urgent need for next-generation COVID-19 vaccines [here](#)
 - Hong Kong's devastating fifth wave [here](#)
 - Careful, kind care is our compass out of the pandemic fog [here](#)
 - Pandemic justice: fairness, social inequality and healthcare priority-setting [here](#)
- Updated best practice guide on COVID-19 [here](#)

Letters and correspondence discussed:

- Evaluation of publication of COVID-19–related articles initially presented as preprints [here](#)
- Omicron XBB and neutralising antibodies in recipients of BNT162b2 or CoronaVac vaccines [here](#)
- Funding pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response through partnership models [here](#)
- Humoral immune evasion of the omicron subvariants BQ.1.1 and XBB [here](#)
- Tixagevimab/cilgavimab (Evusheld) for patients with haematologic diseases [here](#)
- Cardiac and vascular serious adverse events after tixagevimab–cilgavimab [here](#) and response [here](#)
- A COVID-19 milestone attained — a correlate of protection for vaccines [here](#)

Pre-peer review articles featured:

- Risk evaluation of COVID-19 outbreaks in public indoor environments: A meta-analysis [here](#)
- Emergence and spread of variants of concern in Canada: clinical and wastewater data [here](#)
- Detection of healthcare worker infection with Omicron variants by rapid antigen tests [here](#)
- Duration of viral shedding of Omicron in asymptomatic and mild COVID-19 cases from China [here](#)
- Physical and mental health disability associated with long-COVID [here](#)
- Emergence and antibody evasion of BQ and BA.2.75 SARS-CoV-2 sublineages [here](#)
- COVID-19 treatment with nirmatrelvir-ritonavir or molnupiravir among US veterans [here](#)
- Impact of post-COVID-19 syndrome on health-related quality of life and associated factors [here](#)
- Time from symptom onset to remdesivir is associated with the risk of ICU admission [here](#)
- Molnupiravir and nirmatrelvir-ritonavir and mortality or sepsis in hospitalised Omicron patients [here](#)
- COVID-19 associated invasive fungal infections among critically-ill intubated patients [here](#)
- The impact of large-scale social media advertising campaigns on COVID-19 vaccination [here](#)

Guidance and reports

- WHO Weekly epidemiological update on COVID-19: 14 December 2022 [here](#)
- UK Health Security Agency published:
 - A risk assessment for BQ.1 and XBB [here](#)
 - an evaluation of daily testing for contacts [here](#)

News and blogs

- China is relaxing its zero-COVID policy — what scientists think [here](#)
- Winter surge feared as China lurches away from zero-COVID [here](#)
- WHO member states agree to draft international pandemic accord [here](#)

This is the final digest for 2022 and the service will resume on 13 January 2023. Should there be any highly significant developments, interim digest editions will be issued. Upon resumption of services, key publications released during the break will be collated and a summary distributed.

We hope you have a very happy and healthy holiday break!