Daily evidence digest

26 May 2020

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

Peer reviewed journals:
The BMJ published three large prospective cohort studies:

- 20,133 UK patients in hospital with COVID-19 using the ISARIC WHO Clinical Characterisation Protocol [here]
- Factors associated with hospital admission and critical illness among 5,279 people with COVID-19 in New York [here]
- Incidence, clinical outcomes, and transmission dynamics of COVID-19 in California and Washington that included 1,840 people [here]

The Lancet published:

- A report on a dose-escalation, open-label, non-randomised, first-in-human trial on the safety, tolerability, and immunogenicity of a COVID-19 vaccine [here]
- A multinational registry analysis on hydroxychloroquine or chloroquine with or without a macrolide for treatment of COVID-19 [here]
- Perspective pieces on compassion in a time of COVID-19 [here] and the threat of stereotyping when interpreting ethnic differences in COVID-19 [here]
- An editorial on the protection of essential workers [here]

Other publications featured:

- A preliminary report on a multicentre RCT on remdesivir for the treatment of COVID-19 [here]
- US and UK experiences in alternative care sites for the COVID-19 pandemic [here]
- A NSW case report on delayed emergency surgical presentation and the impact of COVID-19 on non-COVID patients [here]
- A cross temporal meta-analysis showing increase in COVID-19 cases and case fatality and case recovery rates in Europe [here]
- An editorial on the impact of lockdowns and income loss on food supplies [here]
- Commentary on targeting hyper-inflammation in COVID-19 with anakinra [here]
- Viewpoint on nursing home care in crisis in the wake of COVID-19 [here]
- An editorial on the COVID-19 coagulopathy spectrum [here]

Letters featured:

- COVID-19 test results after clinical recovery and hospital discharge among patients in China [here]
- Re-positive testing after negative testing in South Korea [here]
- Detection of SARS-CoV-2 in human breastmilk [here]
- A surgery triage system that considers clinical urgency and intensity of resource utilisation [here]
Pre-peer review papers featured:

- A systematic review and meta-analysis of the secondary attack rate, serial interval, and asymptomatic infection [here]
- A systematic review of the estimations of the COVID-19 incubation period [here]
- Trends of SARS-CoV-2 infection worldwide and the role of population density, age structure, and climate on transmission and case fatality [here]
- MRI findings and multifocal transient cortical brain lesions in COVID-19 patients [here]
- An international survey on factors contributing to healthcare professional burnout during COVID-19 [here]
- A systematic review and meta-analysis on susceptibility to and transmission of COVID-19 among children and adolescents, compared with adults [here]
- An online tool for data driven inference of the reproduction number (R0) for COVID-19 before and after interventions for 51 European countries [here]

Reviews:

- Cochrane Collaboration rapid review on video calls for reducing social isolation and loneliness in older people [here]
- The Centre for Evidence Based Medicine released a review on the performance and impact of disposable and reusable respirators for healthcare workers [here] and discussed excess mortality comparisons [here]
- The UK’s NICE published a rapid evidence review on anakinra for COVID-19 associated secondary haemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis [here]
- ECRI published a document on post-ICU syndrome [here]

Twitter:

Transmissibility

- A tweet from @MJAeditor [here] sourced from Science mag ‘why do some COVID-19 patients infect many others, whereas most don’t spread the virus at all?’ Also a thread by Eric Topol tweeting a trend of emerging evidence of SARS-CoV-2 and transmissibility [here] ‘transmission is dominated by a small number of individuals and driven by super-spreading events.’
- Transmission risk of SARS-CoV-2 to healthcare workers- observational results of a primary care hospital contact tracing [here]
- @EricTopol on why cloth face masks work [here]

National Palliative Care week #morethankyouthink #NPCW2020

This week is national Palliative Care Week with the theme of it’s more thank you think [here]. The week is helping spark important conversations about quality palliative care including:

- Recognition and advocacy [here]
- Care in the time of COVID: A visual essay [here]
- Global webinar/briefing series on COVID-19 and post-COVID-19 responses important for older persons in nursing homes [here]
- A blog about palliative care during the covid-19 pandemic [here]

Webinars:

- Navigating evidence and guidance in a crisis and specifically in COVID-19 [here]
- Allied Health Practitioners into Action - Building back even better after COVID-19 [here]