

Weekly Evidence Report



Health Technology Assessment Philippines

28 November to 4 December 2020

Overview

The following report presents summaries of evidence the Department of Health (DOH) - Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Unit reviewed for the period of 28 Nov to 4 Dec 2020. The HTA Unit reviewed a total of 14 studies for the said period.

Evidence includes 4 studies on Epidemiology; 0 studies on Transmission; 1 study on Drugs; 5 studies on Vaccines, 1 study on Equipment and Devices; 1 study on Medical and Surgical Procedures; 0 studies on Traditional Medicine; and 2 studies on Preventive & Promotive Health.

The following report notes that 0 studies have not been peer-reviewed, each highlighted accordingly.



Sections

Epidemiology

Transmission

Drugs

Vaccines

Equipment & Devices

Medical & Surgical Procedures

Traditional Medicine

Preventive & Promotive Health

Evidence on Epidemiology

Local COVID-19 Tracker: <https://www.doh.gov.ph/covid19tracker>Local COVID-19 Case Tracker: <https://www.doh.gov.ph/covid-19/case-tracker>

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
2 Dec 2020	ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center	Risk Assessment for International Dissemination of COVID-19 to the ASEAN Region	ABVC (Risk Assessment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Globally, 64 million cases and more than 1.48 million deaths are due to COVID-19 Indonesia notes one of the highest number of new cases in a 24-hour period since the start of the pandemic with 5,092 new cases Vietnam returns to high alert after getting its first community infection in 89 days. It has temporarily suspended all inbound flights except for repatriation Singapore and Hong Kong's travel bubble has been placed on indefinite delay in line with the epidemic situation in the latter country US FDA is set to meet on Dec 10 to review the applications of Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna. Operation Warp Speed chief scientific adviser notes that the US sees 120 million people are at risk but only 40 million doses will be available at the end of December
1 Dec 2020	WHO	COVID-19 Weekly Epidemiological Update- 1 December 2020	WHO (Epidemiological Report)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Worldwide, there are over 69,000 new deaths reported related to COVID-19 every week Countries with the most cases the past week are USA, India, Brazil, Italy, and the Russian Federation Western Pacific region cases increased by 12% and the number of deaths per week remained at the same rate In the Philippines, the most affected are males and the 20 to 29 years old age group followed by the 30 to 39 years old. NCR reports 46% of cumulative cases followed by Calabarzon

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
2 Dec 2020	Eythorsson, et.al.	Clinical spectrum of coronavirus disease 2019 in Iceland: population based cohort study	BMJ (Cohort study)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,564 confirmed SARS-CoV-2 individuals were included. Most presenting with headache (55%), headache (51%), and nonproductive cough (49%) On diagnosis, 5.3% were asymptomatic and 59% remained so until follow-up Telehealth monitoring services were used in monitoring

Evidence on Vulnerable Population Epidemiology

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
3 Dec 2020	Mannix, et.al.	Paediatric ED utilisation in the early phase of the COVID-19 pandemic	Emergency Medicine Journal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ED volume, acuity level, and disposition were recorded from five hospitals all over the world ED volume decreased in all five hospitals in the earlier parts of the pandemic. However, a 2% increase in ICU admission in Paris occurred. By August, all hospitals increased in volume

Evidence on Transmission

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
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Evidence on Drugs

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
2 Dec 2020	WHO Solidarity Trial Consortium	Repurposed Antiviral Drugs for COVID-19--Interim WHO Solidarity Trial Results	NEJM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11,330 adults from 405 hospitals in 30 countries participated in randomization where 2,750 were given remdesivir, 954 given hydroxychloroquine, 1,411 given lopinavir, 2,063 given interferon with 651 given with lopinavir, and 4,088 with no trial drug. • An adherence rate of 94-96% was noted with 2-6% crossover • 1,253 deaths were noted to be median at day 8 • Remdesivir, hydroxychloroquine, lopinavir, and interferon had little or no effect on admitted patients

Evidence on Vaccines

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
2 Dec 2020	PHE	Regulatory approval of Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine for COVID-19	PHE (Regulation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The vaccine is granted temporary authorization but does not have marketing authorization • The vaccine is for active immunization in people aged 16 years old and up with 2 doses (0.3mL per dose) 21 days apart • Safety and efficacy has not been established for those under 16 years old • At least 7 days are needed before protection is conferred • A comprehensive pharmacovigilance system must be operated by Pfizer/BioNTech
1 Dec 2020		Executive Order No. 121 s. 2020		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The executive order was signed to give authority to the FDA director general to exercise emergency use authorization for COVID-19 drugs and vaccines

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
2 Dec 2020	Australian Government Department of Health	Australia's vaccine agreements	Australian Department of Health (Summary of Vaccine Agreements))	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 agreements for COVID vaccine has been arranged by Australia • The five include The AstraZeneca.Oxford vaccine, Queensland.CSL, Novovax, Pfizer/BioNTech, and Covax facility • Details of each agreement are detailed in the document linked
1 Dec 2020	Swiss Federal Office of Public Health	Coronavirus: Vaccination	Federal Office of Public Health (Guidance)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Swiss have procured close to 9 million doses of COVID vaccines for distribution once clinical trial phases are approved by Swissmedic. • It made an agreement with AstraZeneca acquiring 5.3 million doses and 4.5 million doses with Moderna
30 Nov 2020	Mullard, A.	How COVID vaccines are being divvied up around the world	Nature (News article)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AstraZeneca/Oxford has the most number of pre-orders among all vaccines followed by Novovax and Johnson & Johnson. • Canada has nearly nine doses per person when counting vaccine deals per capita. USA follows the lead and then UK and Australia

Evidence on Equipment & Devices

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
3 Dec 2020	Swaminathan, et.al.	Impact of enhanced personal protective equipment on the physical and mental well-being of healthcare workers during COVID-19	BMJ (Letter to the Editor)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A single center, cross sectional study was done using the UK National Health Service by giving a 23-item online questionnaire to those who use enhanced PPE • Enhanced PPE includes a visor and FFP3 mask • 70.8% of respondents reported exhaustion, 61.4% reported headaches, and 43.2% report skin changes. • 47.3% reported the enhanced PPE had a negative impact on their overall performance

Evidence on Medical & Surgical Procedures

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
3 Dec 2020	Tan, et.al.	COVID-19 public health measures: a reduction in hospital admissions for COPD exacerbations	BMJ (Brief Communication)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A significant reduction in AECOPD and RVI-associated AECOPD admissions after the implementation of public health measures The decline had an OR of 7.8 (95% CI, 5.0-12.8, p <0.001)

Evidence on Traditional Medicine

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
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Evidence on Preventive & Promotive Health

Evidence on Screening

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Evidence on Personal Measures

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
1 Dec 2020	UK Government	Guidance for the Christmas Period	Gov.UK (Guidance document)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The public are advised to follow the tier recommendations in their area • A Christmas bubble is suggested to be done within the home to ensure that people interacting with each other remain within themselves to reduce the risk of transmission • Traveling to UK from international areas, people must follow protocols in self-quarantine unless included in the travel corridor list

Evidence on Community Measures

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
2 Dec 2020	CADTH	COVID-19 Impact on Intimate Partner Violence and Child Maltreatment	CADTH (Summary of Evidence)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The summary of evidences included 25 studies • The report noted that there are limited evidence on the topic but based on such, the pandemic may have resulted in increased risk factors for violence, abuse, and other pressures • Rates of violence are not certain if the increase is due to the pandemic