

Weekly Evidence Report



Health Technology Assessment Philippines

23-29 JANUARY 2021

Overview

The following report presents summaries of evidence the Department of Health (DOH) - Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Unit reviewed for the period of 23 to 29 January 2021. The HTA Unit reviewed a total of 12 studies for the said period.

Evidence includes 2 studies on Epidemiology; 2 studies on Transmission; 3 studies on Drugs; 1 study on Vaccines, 0 studies on Equipment and Devices; 2 studies on Medical and Surgical Procedures; 0 studies on Traditional Medicine; and 2 studies on Preventive & Promotive Health.

The following report notes that 3 studies have not been peer-reviewed, each highlighted accordingly.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
27 Jan 2021	WHO	Weekly epidemiological update--27 January 2021	WHO (Situation Report)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Globally, 4.1 million new cases of COVID have been recorded but a 15% decline is also noted In the Western Pacific Region, Japan, Malaysia, and the Philippines holds the highest cases and deaths for the week

Evidence on Vulnerable Population Epidemiology

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
25 Jan 2021	Kandula, S. et al	Association between COVID-19 mortality and population level health and socioeconomic indicators	MedRxiv (Modeling study)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 43% variability was observed in mortality in US countries which is associated to health/socioeconomic factors Chronic kidney disease and proportion of population in nursing homes were found to be with strongest association Univariate models were done for this study

Evidence on Transmission

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
21 Jan 2021	Davies, N., et al	NERVTAG note on B.1.1.7 severity	PHE (Cohort Study)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Substantially increased transmissibility in VOC B.1.1.7 was noted and has become the dominant variant in the UK A death risk ratio for VOC compared to non-VOC to be 1.65 (95% CI, 1.21-2.71) An increased risk of death compared to a non-VOC infection

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
27 Jan 2021	Kim, MC, et al	Duration of Culturable SARS-CoV-2 in Hospitalized Patients with Covid-19	NEJM (Letter to the Editor)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Viable virus was noted until 3 days after fever lysing with viral cultures being positive in samples with cycle threshold values of 28.4 or less 21 Covid-19 admitted patients were included in the study with SOFA score of 0 and APACHE II of 5.

Evidence on Drugs

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
26 Jan 2021	Castaneda-Sabogal, A, et al	Outcomes of Ivermectin in the treatment of COVID-19: a systematic review and metaanalysis	MedRxiv (Systematic review and meta-analysis)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 studies were included and shows the drug was not associated with decreased mortality (log RR: 0.89 (95%CI, 0.09 to 1.70, p=0.04, I2 = 84.7%) or reduced patient recovery y (logRR 5.52 , 95% CI -24.36 to 35.4, p = 0.51, I2 = 92.6%) High risk of bias and very low certainty of evidence noted
21 Jan 2021	Chen, P., et al	SARS-CoV-2 Neutralizing Antibody LY-CoV555 in Outpatients with Covid-19	NEJM (Experimental Study)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interim results of the Phase 2 of the BLAZE-2 trial showed that one of three doses of the antibody accelerate the natural decline in viral load compared to other doses which had not by day 11 452 patients were randomly assigned to receive a single dose (700mg, 2800mg, or 700mg)
20 Jan 2021	Veiga, V, et al	Effect of tocolizumab on clinical outcomes at 15 days in patients with severe or critical coronavirus disease 2019: randomised controlled trial	BMJ (Randomized controlled trial)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 9 hospitals in Brazil, adult COVID-19 patients on supplemental oxygen or mechanical ventilation and two abnormal serum biomarkers were included. Tocilizumab at 8 mg/kg plus standard care was the intervention In severe or critical COVID-19, tocilizumab plus standard of care was not superior to standard of care alone in improving outcomes at 15 days

Evidence on Vaccines

Link to HTA Living Database: <https://bit.ly/3gOOSmG>
 LAST UPDATE: 29 JANUARY 2021

NYT Coronavirus Vaccine Tracker:

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/science/coronavirus-vaccine-tracker.html>

Bloomberg Vaccine Tracker:

<https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/covid-vaccine-tracker-global-distribution/>

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine Vaccine Trial Mapper and Tracker:

https://vac-lshtm.shinyapps.io/ncov_vaccine_landscape/

ACIP Files: https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1v-jd66qllxnUkfzXWKqiD0mkVvqy_VvJ

ASEAN Vaccine Tracker:

<https://www.aseanbriefing.com/news/covid-19-vaccine-roll-outs-in-asean-asia-live-updates-by-country/>

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
13 Jan 2021	Sadoff, J, et al	Interim Results of a Phase 1-2a Trial of Ad26.COV2.S Covid-19 Vaccine	NEJM (Clinical Trial)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety and immunogenicity profiles support further development of the vaccine A multicenter, placebo-controlled, phase 1-2a trial was done on healthy 18-55 year olds and 65 year olds and older with a single or two-dose schedule Most frequent systemic adverse event was fever with systemic adverse events less common on those given low dose in the younger age cohort Reactogenicity was lower after the second dose In at least 90% of the participants, neutralizing-antibody titers were noted
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Evidence on Equipment & Devices

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
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Evidence on Medical & Surgical Procedures

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
Updated 25 Jan 2021	WHO	COVID-19 Clinical management	WHO (Living Guidance)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conditional recommendations are given for the use of pulse oximetry at home for monitoring, the use of awake prone positioning for severe COVID patients, and the use of thromboprophylaxis dosing for anticoagulants
22 Jan 2021	Shah, W.	Managing the long term effects of covid-19: summary of NICE, SIGN, and RCPG rapid guideline	BMJ (Practice Guidelines)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the most common symptom of long term covid-19 to be fatigue and breathlessness, a chest radiography by 12 weeks post-acute COVID-19 may be offered if not yet done Self-monitoring is encouraged but an agreed upon follow-up period is advised

Evidence on Traditional Medicine

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

Evidence on Screening

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
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Evidence on Personal Measures

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
27 Jan 2021	Bauza, V, et al	Water, sanitation, and hygiene practices and challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic: a cross-sectional study in rural Odisha, India	MedRxiv (Cross-sectional study)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 131 semi-structured phone interviews were conducted to gain insight on behavior changes regarding WASH • 86% reported to have had a change in handwashing practice in terms of frequency and a more thorough method, as well as the use of soap • 13% reported barriers to handwashing

Evidence on Community Measures

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
27 Jan 2021	HIQA	Advice to the National Public Health Emergency Team: Derogation of healthcare workers, who are deemed close contacts, from restricted movements following COVID-19 vaccination	HIQA (Guidance document)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthcare workers who have had the vaccine and are identified as close contacts may be considered for derogation following the HSE guidance for derogation • A previously positive healthcare worker and is a close contact again within three months of infection may continue to work as long as they are asymptomatic