

Weekly Evidence Report



Health Technology Assessment Philippines

4-12 FEBRUARY 2021

Overview

The following report presents summaries of evidence the Department of Health (DOH) - Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Unit reviewed for the period of 4 to 12 February 2021. The HTA Unit reviewed a total of 10 studies for the said period.

Evidence includes 2 studies on Epidemiology; 1 study on Transmission; 1 study on Drugs; 1 study on Vaccines, 1 study on Equipment and Devices; 1 study on Medical and Surgical Procedures; 0 studies on Traditional Medicine; and 3 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The following report notes that 0 studies have not been peer-reviewed, each highlighted accordingly.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
5 Feb 2021	ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center	Risk Assessment for International Dissemination of COVID-19 to the ASEAN Region	ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center (Situation Report)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 104.3 million cases and 2.2 million deaths have been due to COVID-19 globally • Case fatality rate is at 2.2 • Myanmar has closed its international airport since the onset of political unrest at the start of the month • The Philippines has allowed those with visas issued as of 20 March, 2020 and is still currently valid, have been allowed entry into the country

Evidence on Vulnerable Population Epidemiology

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
9 Feb 2021	Vergara-Merino, L, Meza, N., Couve-Perez, C., Carrasco, C., Ortiz-Munoz, L., Madrid, E., Bohorquez-Blanco, S., Perez-Bracchioglione, J.	Maternal and perinatal outcomes related to COVID-19 and pregnancy: overview of systematic reviews	Acta Obstetrica et Gynecologica Scandinavica (Systematic Review)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 52 studies were included in this review • One had a low risk of bias, three with unclear risk of bias, and 48 with high risk of bias • Varying maternal death rates were noted from 0% to 11.1%, admission to intensive care from 2.1% to 28.5%, preterm deliveries before 37 weeks from 14.3% to 61.2%, and caesarean delivery from 48.3% to 100% • Neonatal death rates varied from 0% to 11.7% • Estimated infection status of the newborn varied from 0% to 1.5%

Evidence on Transmission

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
9 Feb 2021	Thompson, HA, et al	SARS-CoV-2 setting-specific transmission rates: a systematic review and meta-analysis	Clinical Infection Disease (Systematic Review and Meta-analyses)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The highest transmission rates were found in households with a pooled SAR of 21.1% (95% CI, 17.4-24.8). • Contacts at social events with family and friends were higher than for low-risk casual contacts at 5.9% vs 1.2% • Limited data were found for workplaces, care homes, and schools

Evidence on Drugs

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
2 Feb 2021	RECOVERY Collaborative Group	Azithromycin in patients admitted to hospital with COVID-19 (RECOVERY): a randomised, controlled, open-label, platform trial	Lancet (Randomized controlled trial)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7,763 from the 6,442 enrolled were included in the assessment of the drug • In admitted patients, azithromycin did not improve survival or other pre specified clinical outcomes. As such, the drug is advised to be given only to those with a clear antimicrobial indication

Evidence on Vaccines

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

European CDC Vaccine Tracker:

<https://gap.ecdc.europa.eu/public/extensions/COVID-19/COVID-19.html#vaccine-tracker-tab>

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
5 Feb 2021	ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center	Risk Assessment for International Dissemination of COVID-19 to the ASEAN Region	ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center (Situation Report)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singapore gave Moderna interim authorization for use after Pfizer • Thailand and Malaysia will be receiving shipments of vaccines to begin and continue their vaccination programs respectively

Evidence on Equipment & Devices

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
10 Feb 2021	CADTH	Respirator Device Fit for Individuals with Facial Hair	CADTH (Evidence Review)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two non-randomized studies were included in the review which both note the inverse relationship of beard length and adequacy of respiratory fit. • The second study found a beard length greater than 0.125 inches had significantly decreased fit

Evidence on Medical & Surgical Procedures

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
9 Feb 2021	HSE	What is the current best evidence for virtual pulmonary rehabilitation for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) in the context of the COVID-9 pandemic?	HSE (Evidence Summary)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low certainty evidence was found with the use of smart technology interventions aside from usual care • More studies are needed to prove the use of Telerehabilitation as an alternative to traditional rehabilitation approaches

Evidence on Traditional Medicine

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
---	---	---	---	---

Evidence on Preventive & Promotive Health

Evidence on Screening

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
---	---	---	---	---

Evidence on Personal Measures

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
4 Feb 2021	Umnuaypornle rt, A., Kanchanasurakit, S., Lucero-Prisno, DE III, and Saokaew, S.	Smoking and risk of negative outcomes among COVID-19 patients: A systematic review and meta-analysis	Tobacco Indused Diseases (Systematic Review and Meta-analysi s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 40 studies out of the 1,248 studies retrieved and reviewed were included in the review and meta-analysis Current and former smoking was found to significantly increase the risk of disease severity (OR=1.58; 95% CI, 1.16-2.15, p=0.004 and OR=2.48, 95% CI 1.64-3.77, p<0.001 respectively) and significantly increased risk of death (OR=1.35, 95% CI 1.12-1.62, p=0.002 and OR=2.58, 95% CI 2.15-3.09, p<0.001 respectively)

Evidence on Community Measures

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
23 Mar 2020 Updated 4 Feb 2021	HIQA	Rapid review of public health guidance on protective measures for vulnerable groups in the context of COVID-19	HIQA (Rapid Review)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The updated review included changes in advice or definition from Germany, Sweden, Denmark, England, Northern Ireland, Norway, and Wales • Germany has shifted to include all vulnerable people into a single grouping similar to Belgium, Canada, Sweden, Finland, and Wales. While, Australia, Northern Ireland, Norway, and Scotland maintained having a “highest risk” and “increased risk” grouping • Due to the current lockdown, all vulnerable individuals are advised to remain at home except only for exercise • Norway has qualified their inclusion of Down’s Syndrome of adults >18 years old to its vulnerable group
30 Mar 2020 Updated 5 Feb 2021	HIQA	Rapid review of public health guidance for residential care facilities in the context of COVID-19	HIQA (Rapid Review)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The update included the theme of vaccines • In Ontario, British Columbia, Scotland, and Northern Ireland, regardless of vaccine status, people must abide by guidelines • In Australia, visitors in residential care, including children, have to have had the 2020 flu vaccine