

Weekly Evidence Report



Health Technology Assessment Philippines

20 to 26 MARCH 2021

Overview

The following report presents summaries of evidence the Department of Health (DOH) - Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Unit reviewed for the period of 20 to 26 March 2021. The HTA Unit reviewed a total of 12 studies for the said period.

Evidence includes 3 studies on Epidemiology; 1 study on Transmission; 0 studies on Drugs; 4 studies 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The following report notes that 1 study have not been peer-reviewed, each highlighted accordingly.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
21 Mar 2021	WHO	Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) External Situation Report	WHO (Situation Report)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Globally, almost 3.3 million new cases were reported in the past week and over 60,000 new deaths were reported In the Western Pacific Region, an increase of 29% and 33% in cases and deaths were recorded in the last week. The highest number of cases in WPRO came from the Philippines with 36 new cases per 100,000 (55% increase)
22 Mar 2021	ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center	Risk Assessment for International Dissemination of COVID-19 to the ASEAN Region	ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center (Risk Assessment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indonesia announced the roll out of Astrazeneca on March 21 after the delay over blood clot concerns Singapore has been closely monitoring the safety and effectiveness of vaccines on children to be administered to school age children Thailand lessened the mandatory quarantine for those vaccinated against COVID-19 to 7 days instead of the 10 days for unvaccinated. But a 14 day quarantine is required for those from other countries

Evidence on Vulnerable Population Epidemiology

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
19 Mar 2021	Peng, J., et al	Fungal co-infection in COVID-19 patients: evidence from a systematic review and meta-analysis	Aging (Systematic Review and Meta-analysis)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11 articles were included wherein 211 patients died due to COVID-19 totaling to a 10,9% mortality rate An overall pooled proportion of fungal co-infection in COVID-19 was computed to be 0.12 (95% CI, 0.07 to -0.16, n=2780, i²=96.8%) An overall pooled proportion of mortality was computed at 0.17 (95% CI, 0.10 to 0.24, n=1944, i²=95.6%)

Evidence on Transmission

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
17 Mar 2021	Agarwal, A., et al	Risk of dispersion or aerosol generation and infection transmission with nasopharyngeal and oropharyngeal swabs for detection of COVID-19: a systematic review	BMJ Open (Systematic review)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7,702 citations were identified but only one study was included. There is limited to no published data on aerosol generation and the risk of transmission with nasopharyngeal and oropharyngeal swabs

Evidence on Drugs

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

Link to HTA Living Database: <https://bit.ly/3gOOSmG>
 LAST UPDATE: 19 MARCH 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

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
23 Mar 2021	Derby, AC Hiscox, JA	Covid-19: variants and vaccination	BMJ (Editorial)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the fact that some countries will be slower in vaccinating the population, the presence of new variants will ensue • The risk of immune escape is difficult to predict for the long term, however, a vaccination for one variant usually would provide for others as well granting their similarities.
20 Mar 2021	Kuzmina, A, et al	SARS CoV-2 spike variants exhibit differential infectivity and neutralization resistance to convalescent or post-vaccination	Cell (Cohort)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detectable entry neutralization potency were observed in all samples with the SARS-CoV-2 wild-type pseudovirus • A two-dose vaccination protocol was concluded since it increases neutralizing antibodies
19 Mar 2021	Callaway, E	SARS-CoV-2 501Y.V2 (B.1.351) elicits cross-reactive neutralizing antibodies	Nature (News article)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neutralization escape has been observed in the 501.Y.V2. • Antibody titers were noted to have cross-reactivities with the original variant

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
16 Mar 2021	Madhi, SA, et al	Efficacy of the ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Covid-19 Vaccine against the B. 1. 351 variant	NEJM (Randomized control trial)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,010 and 1,011 HIV-negative participants received at least one dose of placebo or the vaccine 23 of 717 placebo and 19 of 750 vaccinated participants developed mild to moderate COVID-19 showing an efficacy of 21.9% (95% CI, -49.9 to 59.8). Efficacy against B.1.351 variant showed to be 10.4% (95% CI, -76.8 to 54.8)

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
23 Mar 2021	UK NICE	COVID-19 rapid guideline: managing COVID-19 NICE guideline [NG191]	UK NICE (Rapid Guideline)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A collation of all guidances for the management of COVID-9 for children, youth, and adults in all care settings
22 Mar 2021	HSE Library	What is the current best evidence for virtual pulmonary rehabilitation for COVID-19 patients?	HSE Library (Evidence Summary)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The American Thoracic Society (ATS) and European Respiratory Society (ERS) noted that COVID-19 survivors with existing or ongoing lung function impairment at 6-8 weeks after discharge needs a comprehensive rehabilitation program. Telerehabilitation was mentioned as a method. The British Thoracic Society though noted that there is no benefit in doing remotely supervised recovery programs for COVID-19 survivors

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
23 Mar 2021	Australian Department of Health	Isolation Guidance	Australian Department of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-isolation is recommended for those who arrive in Australia or has had been in close contact with a positive COVID-19 individual 14 days is the indicated number of days of isolation

Evidence on Community Measures

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
19 Mar 2021	National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools	Living Rapid Review Update 13: What is the specific role of daycares and schools in COVID-19 transmission?	McMaster (Rapid Review)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is low risk in contracting COVID-19 between children to children and children to adults in a primary care setting A low GRADE was also noted in transmission of child to adult or adult to child within outbreaks and clusters Infection control measure implementation is crucial to prevent spread of the disease