

Weekly Evidence Report



Health Technology Assessment Philippines

29 May to 4 June 2021

Overview

The following report presents summaries of evidence the Department of Health (DOH) - Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Unit reviewed for the period of 29 May to 4 June 2021. The HTA Unit reviewed a total of 11 studies for the said period.

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

The following report notes that 6 studies have not been peer-reviewed, each highlighted accordingly.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
26 May 2021	WHO WPRO	Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) External Situation Report	WHO WPRO (Situation Report)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five countries in the region have reported no new cases within the week (Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, and Wallis and Futuna) Countries with large-scale community transmission includes some parts of Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, some parts of Papua New Guinea, and some parts of the Philippines Countries with localized community transmission includes Cambodia, Guam, some areas of Japan, the Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, some parts of Malaysia, Vietnam, some parts of Papua New Guinea, and some parts of the Philippines
31 May 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"> Globally, over 171 million cases and over 3 million deaths are attributable to COVID-19 Malaysia is implementing a total lockdown, closing down economic and other activities in the country Vietnam noted a new variant that is a mix of the Indian and UK variant
3 June 2021	Erman, A, et al	Variant-of-concern-attributable health and health system-related outcomes: a population-level propensity-score matched cohort study	MedRxiv (Cohort Study)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A population-based propensity-score matched cohort study including all incident laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases with VOC testing in Ontario, Canada VOCs were found to be related to higher hospitalization rates with an OR of 2.25 (95% CI, 2.10-2.40) and higher mortality for the general public (OR 1.75 [95%CI, 1.47-2.09]) and in admitted cases (OR 1.62 [95% CI 1.32-2.15])

Evidence on Vulnerable Population Epidemiology

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

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
13 May 2020 Updated 3 June 2021	HIQA	Duration of immunity (protection from reinfection) following SARS-CoV-2 infection	HIQA (Evidence Summary)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 new reinfection studies were included in the review regarding immune memory responses • Reinfection was noted to be a rare event at 0.6% However the studies included proposed differing definitions of reinfection • One study created a subgroup analysis showing older individuals have a higher propensity for reinfection with a hazard ratio of 0.15 (median age of at least 84 years old)

Evidence on Drugs

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
23 Mar 2021 Updated 3 June 2021	NICE	COVID-19 rapid guideline: managing COVID-19 NICE guideline [NG191]	NICE (Guidelines)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations on the use of azithromycin for COVID-19 treatment was added • Two research evidences were included leading to the recommendation to not use azithromycin as COVID-19 treatment since it is no better than standard care

Evidence on Vaccines

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-jd66qllxnUkFzXWKqjD0mkVvqy_VvJ

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
31 May 2021	HSE Library	What is the efficacy of COVID-19 vaccinations in preventing disease transmission to the non-vaccinated?	HSE Library (Evidence Summary)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emerging evidence notes that a concomitant reduction in asymptomatic infection and potentially transmission was also noted for COVID-19 vaccines Preliminary data from Britain shows that a significant reduction in COVID-9 cases in household contacts were found when healthcare workers are vaccinated with the Pfizer BioNTech or AstraZeneca vaccines Janssen vaccine was showed a 74% rate against asymptomatic seroconversion
3 June 2021	Thompson, MG, et al	Prevention and Attenuation of COVID-19 by BNT 62b2 and mRNA-1273 Vaccines	MedRxiv (Real World Study)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3,975 healthcare personnel and other frontline worker was included in the study The adjusted mRNA vaccine efficiency of full vaccination was at 91% (95% CI 76-97%) versus symptomatic or asymptomatic infection. While, partial vaccination led to an efficacy of 81% (95% CI 64-90%) Mean viral RNA load was lower by 40% (95% CI 16-57%) among those with partial or full vaccination

Evidence on Medical and Surgical Procedures

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
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Evidence on Equipment & Devices

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
1 June 2021	Haller, S, et al	Use of respirator vs surgical masks in healthcare personnel and its impact on SARS-CoV-2 acquisition: a prospective multicentre cohort study	MedRxiv (Cohort study)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3,259 participants were included where 716 used FFP2 respirators • 81 of the 716 respondents tested positive for COVID-19 compared to 352 from 2,453 surgical mask users • FFP2 use was noted to be associated with a decreased risk for a positive SARS-CoV-2 swab not significantly • Household exposure was the strongest risk factor • FFP2 were however seen to be protective among those with frequent COVID-19 exposure • In sum, respirators compared to surgical masks may provide added protection in healthcare workers who have frequent COVID-19 exposure

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
1 June 2021	Teasdale, CA, et al	Parental plans to vaccinate children for COVID-19 in New York City	MedRxiv (Qualitative Study)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,119 parents and caregivers of children less than 12 years of age in New York City were surveyed online from 9 March to 11 April 2021 61% had plans to vaccinate their youngest children, 23.3% unsure, and 14.8% said they had no plans It was found that parents who would vaccinate themselves were likelier to vaccinate their children as well
3 June 2021	Miyake, F, et al	Job stress and loneliness among remote workers	MedRxiv (Cross sectional study)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A self-administered questionnaire was distributed nationwide in Japan last December 2020. Among them, 4,052 indicated that they were doing remote work Logistic regression was done showing an AOR of 1.60 (95% CI 1.04-2.46) in the association of loneliness with the frequency of working remotely and an AOR of 4.06 (95% CI 2.82-5.84, p <0.001) for having low level of co-worker or supervisor support with the feeling of loneliness

Evidence on Community Measures

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
1 June 2021	Sanjuan, R, et al	Reliability of wastewater analysis for monitoring COVID-19 incidence revealed by a long-term follow-up study	MedRxiv (Cohort study)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 377 samples were gotten from various treatment plants where 75% of the SARS-CoV-2 RNA from RT PCR were amplified More than 1000 gc/L showed more than 95% sensitivity and specificity Wastewater analysis shows to be a reliable tool to monitor COVID-19