

# Weekly Evidence Report



Health Technology Assessment Philippines

19 to 25 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 19 to 25 June 2021. The HTA Unit reviewed a total of 10 studies for the said period.

Evidence includes 4 studies on Epidemiology; 1 study on Transmission; 0 studies 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 2 studies on Preventive & Promotive Health.

The following report notes that 4 studies have not been peer-reviewed, each highlighted accordingly.



## Sections

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Epidemiology

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Transmission

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Drugs

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Vaccines

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Equipment & Devices

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Medical & Surgical Procedures

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Traditional Medicine

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Preventive & Promotive Health

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## 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
22 Jun 2021	WHO Global	<a href="#">Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) External Situation Report</a>	WHO Global (Situation Report)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over 2.5 million new cases and over 64,000 deaths have been recorded in the past week,</li> <li>The last week noted the lowest incidence since February 2021</li> <li>The western pacific region reported similar number of new cases from the previous week along with the Americas. Meanwhile, Southeast Asia and EU region showed a decline since last week</li> </ul>
18 Jun 2021	ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center	<a href="#">Risk Assessment for International Dissemination of COVID-19 to the ASEAN Region</a>	ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center (Risk Assessment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Laos prepares for an extension of lockdown measures as there is still a community spread of COVID-19</li> <li>Indonesia and Vietnam aim to boost their vaccination campaigns aiming to manage a new surge of cases</li> </ul>
23 Jun 2021	Wink, PL, et al	<a href="#">First identification of SARS-CoV-2 Lambda (C.37) variant in Southern Brazil</a>	MedRxiv (Epidemiologic Study)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Lambda lineage (C.37) of SARS-CoV-2 was listed as a variant of interest by the WHO last 15 June 2021</li> <li>The variant was seen to present with all eight C.37 lineage mutation along with 19 others</li> <li>The variant has been noted to have increased transmissibility rates</li> </ul>

## Evidence on Vulnerable Population Epidemiology

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
16 Jun 2021	Hintermeier, M., et al	<a href="#">SARS-CoV-2 among migrants and forcibly displaced populations: a rapid systematic review</a>	Journal of Migrant Health (Rapid Systematic Review)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13 studies were included in the systematic review and an additional two studies were added via snowballing method</li> <li>Incidence risk varied from 0.12% to 2.08% in non-outbreaks and a range of 5.64% to 21.15% in outbreaks</li> <li>Transmission was found to be slow at the start with an increase beginning the fourth week and the third month after simulated outbreaks</li> </ul>

## Evidence on Transmission

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
13 May 2020  Updated 22 Jun 2021	HIQA	<a href="#">Duration of immunity (protection from reinfection) following SARS-CoV-2 infection</a>	HIQA (Evidence Summary)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wording change was done on the last paragraph of page 53 involving the study of Bernal et al</li> </ul>

## Evidence on Drugs

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
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## 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/](https://vac-lshtm.shinyapps.io/ncov_vaccine_landscape/)

**ACIP Files:**

[https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1v-jd66qllxnUkfzXWKqiD0mkVvqy\\_VvJ](https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1v-jd66qllxnUkfzXWKqiD0mkVvqy_VvJ)

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
22 Jun 2021	Low, JM, et al	<a href="#">Breastfeeding mother-child outcomes after COVID-19 vaccination</a>	MedRxiv (Cohort Study)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 88 lactating women in Singapore post- BNT162b2 vaccination were included in the 28 day study</li> <li>• Minimal breastfeeding effects were noted with 3 reporting mastitis and one with breast engorgement</li> <li>• No change in breastmilk supply were noted among those included</li> <li>• The most common side effect was pain/redness/swelling at the injection site (64.8% of participants)</li> <li>• No serious adverse events were noted throughout the study</li> </ul>

**Evidence on Medical and Surgical Procedures**

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
18 Jun 2021	HSE Library	<a href="#">What models of care are available for patients recovering from COVID-19 with persisting symptoms? What models of care are available for long COVID, or post-acute sequelae of COVID-19?</a>	HSE (Summary of Evidence)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An increasing population of post-COVID-19 individuals having symptoms persistent up to 12 weeks or more have been noted</li> <li>• As such, post-acute COVID-19 rehabilitation becomes more important</li> <li>• Literature shows the importance of post-acute COVID-19 assessment and preparedness with clinical rehabilitation pathways</li> </ul>

## Evidence on Equipment & Devices

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
22 Jun 2021	Hoole, A, et al	<u><a href="#">Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) for Moderate to Severe Covid19 Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (CARDS) in a Resource limited setting</a></u>	MedRxiv (Retrospective Cohort Study)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>32 of 41 patients survived overall were treated according to protocol with CPAP</li> <li>The study showed non inferiority to CARDS outcomes in critical care units with intubation and mechanical ventilation</li> <li>CPAP could be used as an efficacious and cost-effective method for treating CARDS in a low resource setting</li> </ul>

## 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
22 Jun 2021	Ghosh, AK, et al	<a href="#">Association between overcrowded households, multigenerational households, and COVID-19: a cohort study</a>	MedRxiv (Cohort Study)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Bayesian ecological time series analysis was conducted in New York City</li> <li>• Over-crowdedness and multigenerational housing posed as a risk factor for COVID-19. A temporary spike in SARS-CoV-2 transmission may occur due to an increase in house-bound populations during the early phases of the pandemic</li> </ul>

## Evidence on Community Measures

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
23 Jun 2021	HIQA	<a href="#">COVID-19--Interventions and health-related factors that prevent infection or minimise progression to severe disease</a>	HIQA (Evidence Summary)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 52 studies were included in the review with five discussing pharmacological interventions and 46 studies on modifiable health-related risk factors. Meanwhile, no studies were found relevant to non-[pharmacological interventions</li> <li>• Four studies looked at the use of ivermectin and found that it had a protective effect but of very low certainty</li> <li>• Low certainty of evidence was found for the study on bamlanivimab versus placebo</li> <li>• For risk factors, majority related to COVID-19 were from the following: being overweight or obese, smoking, vitamin D status, level of physical activity, alcohol consumption, and processed meat consumption</li> </ul>