

Weekly Evidence Report



Health Technology Assessment Philippines

10 to 16 July 2021

Overview

The following report presents summaries of evidence the Department of Health (DOH) - Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Unit reviewed for the period of 10 to 16 July 2021. The HTA Unit reviewed a total of 11 studies for the said period.

Evidence includes 5 studies on Epidemiology; 0 studies on Transmission; 2 studies on Drugs; 1 study on Vaccines; 1 study on Equipment and Devices; 1 study on Medical and Surgical Procedures; 1 study on Traditional Medicine; and 0 studies on Preventive & Promotive Health.

The following report notes that there is no study that has not been peer-reviewed.



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
12 July 2021	WHO Global	Weekly Operational Update on COVID-19	WHO Global (Situation Report)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WHO-led UN Crisis-Management Team coordinates with 23 UN entities across nine areas of work. Over 5.4 million people are registered on OpenWHO who have access to online training courses across 35 topics and 55 languages. Over 19 million PCR tests, 203 million medical masks, 1.8 million gloves, and 9 millions face shields shipped globally.
13 July 2021	WHO Global	COVID-19 Weekly Epidemiological Update	WHO Global (Situation Report)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nearly 3 million new cases and over 55,000 new deaths were reported globally the last week (5-11 July 2021). All Regions except the Americas recorded an increase in incidence rate. The African Region recorded a 50% increase in the number of deaths while the South-East Asian Region recorded a 26% increase in the number of deaths.
14 July 2021	ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center	COVID-19 Situational Report in the ASEAN Region	Situation Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Malaysia reported their first five-figured daily number of cases last July 13 having a total of 11,079 new cases. Indonesia reported 47,899 new cases bringing the total number of COVID-19 cases of the country to 2.6 million as of July 13. 5,669,411 confirmed cases and 108,699 deaths attributed to COVID-19 have been reported in the ASEAN region.
14 July 2021	European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control	EMA and ECDC update on COVID-19	ECDC Press Release	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The European Medicines Agency (EMA) and the ECDC urges the public to get vaccinated and to adhere to the number of doses. The EMA and ECDC recognizes the Delta variant to be more transmissible by 40% to 60% as compared to the Alpha variant. Other protective measures such as wearing of masks and social distancing is imposed reduce the risks of community transmission.

Evidence on Vulnerable Population Epidemiology

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
12 July 2021	UK Department of Health and Social Care	Guidance on shielding and protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19	Guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaccination should be required for everyone in the Shielded Patient List • Work from home arrangements are advised whenever possible. Otherwise, employers are mandated to make workplaces COVID-19 safe. • Face coverings are required when using public transportation.

Evidence on Transmission

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

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
10 July 2021	Gupta T, Thakkar P, Kalra B, Kannan S.	Hydroxychloroquine in the treatment of coronavirus disease 2019: Rapid updated systematic review and meta-analysis	Systematic Review and Meta-analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Randomized Control Trials (RCTs) assigning patients to hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) plus standard of care therapy versus placebo/standard of care were included. • The use of HCQ did not result to higher rates of clinical improvement or decrease in all-cause mortality as compared to placebo/standard of care. There was also no significant difference in serious adverse events between the two arms. • The certainty of evidence is reported to be low to moderate.
11 July 2021	Klopfenstein T, Gendrin V, Gerazime A, Conrozier T, Balblanc JC, Royer PY, Lohse A, Mezher C, Toko L, Guillochon C, Badie J, Pierron A, Kadiane-Oussou N'J, Puyraveau M, Zayet S.	Systematic Review and Subgroup Meta-analysis of Randomized Trials to Determine Tocilizumab's Place in COVID-19 Pneumonia	Systematic Review and Subgroup Meta-analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nine RCTs were included with overall mortality rate of 24.5% in the tocilizumab group and 29.1% in the control group. • Tocilizumab is considered to be an effective treatment in hospitalized patients with COVID-19 and hypoxemia by decreasing mortality rate and mechanical ventilation requirement. The benefits were observed greatly in severe COVID-19 patients.

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-jd66qllxnUkfzXWKqiD0mkVvqy_VvJ

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
12 July 2021	Lisa Schnirring	Delta COVID-19 surges worsen; WHO challenges push for vaccine booster doses	Press Release	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The WHO warned the worsening of the pandemic due to the Delta variant quickly spreading. WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, PhD urges the vaccination of individuals who have not received any doses and protections. He also urged Moderna and Pfizer to go all out to channel vaccine supply to COVAX rather than focusing on boosters.

Evidence on Equipment & Devices

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

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
11 July 2021	Evidence Aid	Convalescent plasma as a possible treatment for COVID-19 (multiple reviews)	Literature Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convalescent plasma as treatment for people with moderate to severe COVID-19 disease does not reduce mortality and has little to no impact in terms of clinical improvement based on high certainty of evidence from included studies.

Evidence on Traditional Medicine

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
13 July 2021	Jiang F, Xu N, Zhou Y, Song J, Liu J, Zhu H, Jiang J, Xu Y, Li R.	Contribution of traditional Chinese medicine combined with conventional western medicine treatment for the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19), current evidence with systematic review and meta-analysis	Systematic Review and Meta-analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RCTs, case-control studies (CCTs), and cohort studies on traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) or TCM combined with conventional western medicine (CWM) for COVID-19 were included. TCM combined with CWM was found to be a potential treatment option for increasing clinical effective rate, improving clinical symptoms as well as preventing disease progression in COVID-19 patients based on very low to moderate overall quality of evidence.

Evidence on Preventive & Promotive Health

Evidence on Screening

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

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