Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine, face masks and social distancing, rapid and mass testing

Peer reviewed journals featured:

- Interim analysis of four randomised controlled trials on the safety and efficacy of the Oxford-AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine [here](#) and associated commentary [here](#)
- Systematic reviews and meta-analyses on:
  - The prevalence and predictors of death and severe disease in hospitalised COVID-19 patients [here](#)
  - SARS-CoV-2 and limb ischemia [here](#)
  - The role of children in SARS-CoV-2 household transmission clusters [here](#)
- A retrospective cohort study on viral positivity and seroconversion during COVID-19 [here](#)
- A mixed-methods study on clinician perspectives on caring for dying patients during COVID-19 [here](#)
- A cross-sectional online survey of health literacy and disparities in COVID-19–related knowledge, attitudes, beliefs and behaviours in Australia [here](#)
- Reviews on:
  - Infectious disease dynamic transmission models during COVID-19 [here](#)
  - Neonatal-perinatal perspectives of COVID-19 [here](#)
- Observational studies on:
  - Face masks and social distancing [here](#)
  - Metabolomics of exhaled breath in critically ill COVID-19 patients [here](#)
  - The Panbio™ COVID-19 antigen rapid test (Abbott) in community-dwelling subjects with COVID-19 symptoms in the Netherlands [here](#)
  - The impact of COVID-19 on healthcare activity in NSW [here](#)
- Editorials on:
  - Rapid and frequent testing for COVID-19 [here](#)
  - COVID-19 vaccines, medical regulators and open data [here](#)
  - How public health systems learn and adapt after extreme events [here](#)
- Commentary on:
  - The characterisation of persistently asymptomatic infection with SARS-CoV-2 [here](#)
  - The Australian health system response to COVID-19 [here](#)
  - COVID-19 and cancer screening services in Australia [here](#)
Letters and correspondence discussed:
• Socioeconomic determinants of COVID-19 and the Human Development Index here
• Fungal infections should be part of the core outcome set for COVID-19 here and authors’ reply here
• A public health ethic and policies on COVID-19 immunity passports here and authors’ reply here
• Population preferences for inclusive COVID-19 policy responses here

Pre-peer review articles featured:
• A cross-sectional observational study on improving COVID-19 vaccine uptake in the UK here

Guidance and reports
• The World Health Organization published a global vaccine action plan here

News and blogs
• Mass testing for COVID-19 in Slovakia and the UK here
• Oxford COVID-19 vaccine paper highlights lingering unknowns about results here
• Rapid one-step detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA here
• Smartwatch data help detect COVID-19 here
• BMJ blogs on:
  o The second COVID-19 surge in the UK here
  o The legality of requiring self-isolation after a positive COVID-19 test in the UK here
  o Mass asymptomatic COVID-19 testing in Liverpool, UK here
  o Reducing the environmental impact of the NHS response to COVID-19 here

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The final digest for 2020 will be released on 18 December and the service will resume on 20 January 2021. A skeleton service will monitor publications over the shutdown period. Should there be any highly significant developments, alerts will be issued to the digest mailing list. Upon resumption of services, key publications released during the break will be collated and a summary distributed.