COVID-19 Critical Intelligence Unit

Daily evidence digest

25 January 2022

The daily evidence digest collates recently released reports and evidence – provision of these links does not imply endorsement nor recommendation.

Boosters post-CoronaVac, immunotherapy, physicians seeking outpatient care for mental health and substance use during COVID-19

Peer reviewed journals featured:

- A phase 4 randomised trial on COVID-19 boosters in CoronaVac vaccine recipients in Brazil here
- A randomised controlled trial on remdesivir for treating hospitalised COVID-19 patients here
- A narrative review on immunotherapy for COVID-19 here
- · Observational studies on:
 - Association between 3 doses of mRNA vaccine and symptomatic infection caused by the Omicron and Delta variants here and associated editorial here
 - Trends in health service use among Canadian adults with dementia and Parkinson disease during the first COVID-19 wave here
 - Physician healthcare visits for mental health and substance use during COVID-19 in Ontario, Canada <u>here</u> and associated commentary <u>here</u>
 - o Tracking SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern in South African wastewater here
- Commentary on reducing the COVID-19 isolation period in England <u>here</u>

Letters and correspondence discussed:

• Interferon antagonism and drug sensitivity in Omicron compared to Delta variants here

Pre-peer review articles featured:

- Omicron variant resilience to the antiviral type I interferon response here
- Omicron and Delta variants and risk of hospitalisation and lengths of stay here
- Outcomes in residents of Long-Term Care Facilities following infection with Omicron here
- The experiences of people living with post-acute COVID-19 syndrome here
- Sensitivity of nasal or throat swabs in rapid antigen tests <u>here</u>
- Neutralisation of Omicron by 2 or 3 doses of Comirnaty (Pfizer) vaccine here
- Comirnaty (Pfizer) boosters in adults who received two doses of inactivated vaccine <u>here</u> and in Japanese healthcare workers <u>here</u>
- Effectiveness of mRNA COVID-19 boosters against Omicron infection in Qatar here



Guidance and reports

- The World Health Organization published:
 - o An update to its technical brief on enhancing the response to Omicron variant here
 - o An updated guide for use of the Comirnaty (Pfizer) COVID-19 vaccine here and here
 - o The WHO SAGE roadmap for prioritising uses of COVID-19 vaccines here

News and blogs

- UK advice on wider use of FFP3 masks should extend to GPs here
- A podcast on the COVID-19 death toll <u>here</u>
- Why scientists are racing to develop more COVID-19 antivirals here

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Living Evidence Tables

Living Evidence tables are up-to-date summaries of emerging evidence. Tables are available on <u>COVID-19 transmission</u>, SARS-CoV-2 <u>vaccines</u>, and <u>variants</u> of concern, <u>post-acute sequelae of COVID-19</u> (PASC), surgery and COVID-19, rapid testing and risk mitigation strategies.

