

COVID-19 Evidence Update

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Royal College/Society Guidance

Royal College of Obstetrics & Gynaecologists

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection and pregnancy](#) – published updated 21st March

Royal College of Surgeons

- [Guidance for surgeons working during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

Royal College of Physicians

- [Identifying and helping to protect patients most at risk from COVID-19](#)
- [Specialty-specific guidance on aspects of clinical care and treatment for COVID-19](#)

Royal College of Nursing

[Covid-19 \(coronavirus\)](#) – guidance for members of the RCN

Royal College of Midwives

[Coronavirus – what you need to know](#) – News item

Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health

[COVID-19](#) – key topics

- [RCPCH publishes advice about anti-inflammatory medicines and COVID-19](#)
- [COVID-19 - update on examinations](#)

Royal College of General Practitioners

[COVID-19 updates page](#)

- [Vulnerable Patients – The Role of General Practice during COVID-19 \[179 KB PDF\]](#)
- [RCGP Guidance on workload prioritisation during COVID-19 \[286 KB PDF\]](#)

British Society of Gastroenterology
[COVID-19 Guidance & Advice](#)

- [BSG expanded consensus advice for the management of IBD during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)
- [BSG/BASL COVID-19 Advice on Hepatology patient risk groups](#)

British Society of Echocardiography
[COVID-19 clinical guidance](#)

British Society of Gerontology
[British Society of Gerontology Statement on COVID-19](#)

British Society for Haematology
[COVID-19 Updates](#)

British Society for Rheumatology
[COVID-19 updates for members](#)

Dynamed Plus - COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus)

Latest updates

20 MAR 2020

209,839 confirmed cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) including 8,778 deaths worldwide reported by World Health Organization (WHO) as of March 19, 2020 (WHO Situation Report 2020 Mar 19)

[View in topic](#)

20 MAR 2020

no intrauterine infection by vertical transmission reported in women with COVID-19 in late pregnancy (Lancet 2020 Mar 7)

[View in topic](#)

20 MAR 2020

CT features may vary between early and advanced phases of COVID-19 pneumonia (AJR Am J Roentgenol 2020 Mar 5 early online)

[View in topic](#)

20 MAR 2020

chest CT might help screen for COVID-19 in epidemic areas, but high false-positive rate may limit its utility (Radiology 2020 Feb 26 early online)

[View in topic](#)

18 MAR 2020

older age, higher Sequential Organ Failure Assessment score, and d-dimer > 1 mcg/mL associated with increased in-hospital mortality in adults with COVID-19 (Lancet 2020 Mar 11 early online)

[View in topic](#)

Updated 23 March

[COVID-19: guidance for health professionals](#)

[COVID-19: guidance for employees, employers and businesses](#)

[Increase to Working Tax Credits - what this means](#)

[The Exercise of Commissioning Functions by the NHS Commissioning Board \(Coronavirus\) Directions 2020](#)

[UK launches whole genome sequence alliance to map spread of coronavirus](#)

[COVID-19: guidance on social distancing and for vulnerable people](#)

[COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#)

[Rail emergency measures during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

World Health Organisation – Rolling Updates

WHO Health Alert for coronavirus launches on WhatsApp

20 March 2020

To increase access to reliable information, WHO worked with WhatsApp and Facebook to launch a new WHO Health Alert messaging service today. The WhatsApp-based service will provide vital information about COVID-19 to millions of people through their mobile phones. The service uses an AI chatbot to provide updated information on the pandemic, including how to protect yourself, questions and answers, and the latest news and press coverage. The Health Alert service is now available in English and will be introduced in other languages next week. This is part of WHO's wider initiative to work with technology companies to get accurate health information into the hands of people that need it at this critical time.

[Link to receive messages from the WHO Health Alert on WhatsApp](#)

Young people "are not invincible"

20 March 2020

Speaking at the COVID-19 media briefing, the Director-General said:

"Although older people are the hardest hit, younger people are not spared.

Data from many countries clearly show that people under 50 make up a significant proportion of patients requiring hospitalization.

Today, I have a message for young people: you are not invincible. This virus could put you in hospital for weeks, or even kill you.

Even if you don't get sick, the choices you make about where you go could be the difference between life and death for someone else.

I'm grateful that so many young people are spreading the word and not the virus."

[WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the media briefing on COVID-19 - 18 March 2020](#)

Launch of SOLIDARITY trial

18 March 2020

WHO and partners are launching an international clinical trial that aims to generate robust data from around the world to find the most effective treatments for COVID-19. The SOLIDARITY trial provides simplified procedures to enable even overloaded hospitals to participate.

[WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the media briefing on COVID-19 - 18 March 2020](#)

More than 320 000 learners enrol in online COVID-19 courses

18 March 2020

Real-time training during global emergencies is critical for effective preparedness and response. The OpenWHO Massive Online Open Courses for COVID-19 provide learning resources for health professionals, decision-makers and the public. More than 320 000 learners have already enrolled.

As the pandemic continues to evolve, new resources will be added, additional language versions will continue to be rolled out, and existing courses will be updated to best reflect the changing context.

Courses include:

- [Operational Planning Guidelines to Support Country Preparedness and Response](#)
- [Infection Prevention and Control](#)
- [Acute Respiratory Infections \(ARIs\) and basic hygiene measures to protect against infection](#)
- [Clinical Care Severe Acute Respiratory Infection](#)
- [Emerging respiratory viruses, including COVID-19: methods for detection, prevention, response and control](#)

"You cannot fight a fire blindfolded."

16 March 2020

Countries should test every suspected case of COVID-19.

If people test positive, they should be isolated and the people they have been in close contact with up to 2 days before they developed symptoms should be sought out, and those people should be tested too if they show symptoms of COVID-19.

WHO also advises that all confirmed cases, even mild cases, should be isolated in health facilities, to prevent transmission and provide adequate care.

But we recognize that many countries have already exceeded their capacity to care for mild cases in dedicated health facilities.

In that situation, countries should prioritize older patients and those with underlying conditions.

[WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the media briefing on COVID-19 - 16 March 2020](#)

Novel Coronavirus Information Center – Elsevier

Book chapters

- [Novel Coronavirus from Wuhan China, 2019-20](#), Update to Chapter 155, *Mandell, Douglas, and Bennett's Principles and Practice of Infectious Diseases, Ninth Edition* (Elsevier, 2020)
- [Coronaviruses, Including Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome \(SARS\) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome \(MERS\)](#), Chapter 155, *Mandell, Douglas, and Bennett's Principles and Practice of Infectious Diseases, Ninth Edition* (Elsevier, 2020)
- [Viral Infections](#), Chapter 32, *Murray and Nadel's Textbook of Respiratory Medicine, Sixth Edition* (Elsevier, 2016)
- [Coronaviruses](#), Chapter 31, *Fenner and White's Medical Virology (Fifth Edition)* (Elsevier's Academic Press, 2017)

Resources for drug discovery

Elsevier's [R&D solutions for pharma and life sciences](#) integrate data, analytics and technology to help researchers make data-driven drug discovery and development decisions and streamline literature monitoring for pharmacovigilance. Here, we will use those tools to generate information relevant to combatting 2019-nCoV.

- [121 drugs and natural products successfully used against previous coronavirus infections including SARS](#). This list was generated using Elsevier's [Pathway Studio](#).

- [393 substances that interact with 25 targets related to 6 target species](#) including SARS coronavirus, Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus, human Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus, Human coronavirus 229E, Coronaviridae and Coronavirinae, with normalized affinity value > 6. This list was generated using Elsevier's [Reaxys Medicinal Chemistry](#).

Clinical Overviews on ClinicalKey

Clinical Overviews are easy-to-scan clinically focused medical topic summaries designed to match the clinician workflow. Elsevier's Point-of-Care Editorial team develops Clinical Overviews through a process that includes review and revision by a medical editor; peer reviews performed by subject matter experts; a production review to ensure consistency in style, grammar, and punctuation; and a final evaluation by the editor-in-chief.

- [Novel coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)

Clinical Skills for Nursing

Clinical Skills for Nursing provides the highest quality evidence for nursing practice procedures for nurses to care for patients. Our Isolation Precautions and Personal Protective Equipment checklists align with CDC and OSHA guidelines:

- [Skills checklist "Isolation Precautions and Personal Protective Equipment"](#)
- [Extended text: "Isolation Precautions: Personal Protective Equipment"](#)
- [FAQ based the recommendations made by the CDC and WHO for nurses and patients](#)

Interprofessional Care Plans

These Interprofessional Care Plans provide an evidence-based and individualizable Interprofessional plan of care to manage fever and the possible development of pneumonia, which is consistent with the presentation of this virus. Using an interprofessional approach to patient care that aligns current evidence with the individual needs of the patient results in improved patient care outcomes.

- [Care Plan Guide: Fever — Adult](#)
- [Care Plan Guide: Fever — Pediatric](#)
- [Care Plan Guide: Pneumonia — Adult](#)
- [Care Plan Guide: Pneumonia — Pediatric](#)

Patient engagement resources

Patient engagement resources use plain language to support shared decision-making between patients and healthcare providers. The goal is to deliver the right message in the right way at the time the patient is most ready to learn. The following resources provide an overview of the novel coronavirus to help patients and their families understand their risk, identify signs and symptoms, and prevent it from spreading:

- [Patient Education document "Novel Coronavirus Infection"](#)

- [Video on hand hygiene](#)
 - [Video on pneumonia](#)
-

Wiley Online Library Coronavirus & News

Paediatric/neonatal

[Insight into COVID-2019 for pediatricians](#)

Pediatric Pulmonology

Case Report: "The incubation period of SARSCoV-2 infection in children is 1 to 14 days, generally 3 to 7 days. The clinical manifestations are asymptomatic or include fever, fatigue, and dry cough; a few patients have upper respiratory tract symptoms, such as nasal obstruction, runny nose, and sore throat; and a few patients have gastrointestinal symptoms, such as abdominal discomfort, nausea, vomiting, stomachache, and diarrhea. From the current situation of pediatric cases, most of the clinical manifestations are relatively mild, with no fever or pneumonia, and have a good prognosis."

[Anal swab findings in an infant with COVID-19](#)

Pediatric Investigation

"The possibility of fecal-oral transmission of COVID-19 should be assessed. Personal hygiene during home quarantine merits considerable attention"

[Systematic review of COVID-19 in children show milder cases and a better prognosis than adults](#)

Acta Paediatrica

"COVID-19 has occurred in children, but they seemed to have a milder disease course and better prognoses than adults. Deaths were extremely rare"

[Three children who recovered from novel coronavirus 2019 pneumonia](#)

Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health

Brief communication "Through everybody's effort, careful treatment, psychological nursing support and infection control measures in hospital, these children recovered completely and were discharged safely"

Adult

[Coronavirus in pregnancy and delivery: rapid review](#)

Ultrasound in Obstetrics & Gynecology

"Serious morbidity occurred in 2/32 women with COVID-19, both of whom required ICU care. Compared with SARS and MERS, COVID-19 appears less lethal, acknowledging the limited number of cases reported to date and one woman who remains in a critical condition."

[The clinical characteristics of pneumonia patients co-infected with 2019 novel coronavirus and influenza virus in Wuhan, China](#)

Journal of Medical Virology

"Common symptoms at onset of illness included fever (5 [100%] patients), Cough (5 [100%] patients), shortness of breath (5 [100%] patients), nasal tampon (3 [60%] patients), pharyngalgia (3 [60%] patients), myalgia (2 [40%] patients), fatigue (2 [40%] patients), headache (2 [40%] patients), and expectoration (2 [40%] patients)."

[A Single Ventilator for Multiple Simulated Patients to Meet Disaster Surge](#)

Academic Emergency Medicine

"A single ventilator may be quickly modified to ventilate four simulated adults for a limited time. The volumes delivered in this simulation should be able to sustain four 70-kg individuals."

Successful recovery of COVID-19 pneumonia in a renal transplant recipient with long-term immunosuppression

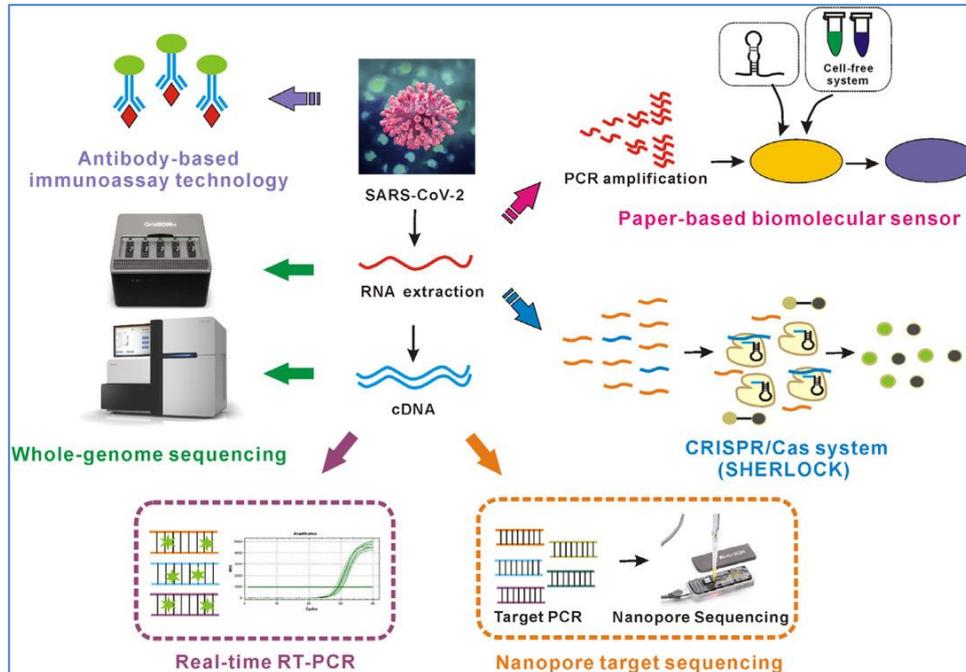
American Journal of Transplantation

“This is a 52-year-old man who received kidney transplantation 12 years ago. His overall clinical characteristics (symptoms, laboratory examinations, and chest CT) were similar to those of non-transplanted COVID-19 patients. Following a treatment regimen consisting of reduced immunosuppressant use and low dose methylprednisolone-based therapy, the COVID-19 pneumonia in this long-term immunosuppressive patient was successfully recovered.”

General

Promising methods for detection of novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2

View



Coronaviruses and immunosuppressed patients. The facts during the third epidemic

Liver Transplantation

“Unlike common viral agents (such as Adenovirus, Rhinovirus, Norovirus, Influenza, Respiratory Syncytial Virus), Coronaviruses have not shown to cause a more severe disease in immunosuppressed patients”

Eleven Faces of Coronavirus Disease 2019

Allergy

“Patients with common allergic diseases did not develop distinct symptoms and severe courses. Cases with a pre-existing condition of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease or complicated with a secondary bacterial pneumonia were more severe.”

The Oral Surgery Response to Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19). Keep Calm and Carry On?

Oral Surgery

Editorial: “The Chinese view has been that due to the unique characteristics of dental procedures, where a large number of droplets and aerosols could be generated, the standard protective measures in daily clinical work are not effective enough to prevent the spread of COVID-19, especially when patients are in the incubation period, are unaware they are infected, or choose to conceal their infection.”

COVID-19 pandemic: perspectives on an unfolding crisis

British Journal of Surgery

“There are some reports regarding patients with COVID-19 presenting with gastrointestinal symptoms that mimic surgical diseases, specifically a pancreatitis-like clinical presentation.”

[Coronavirus disease 2019: the harms of exaggerated information and non-evidence-based measures](#)

European Journal of Clinical Investigation

“Evidence is lacking for the most aggressive measures. A systematic review on measures to prevent the spread of respiratory viruses found insufficient evidence for entry port screening and social distancing in reducing epidemic spreading.”

[The possibility of COVID-19 transmission from eye to nose](#)

Acta Ophthalmologica

Letter to the editor: “we speculate that the virus enters the tears through droplets, which may pass through the nasolacrimal ducts and then into the respiratory tract. Combined with all this information, we assert that, when coming into contact with confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19, healthcare workers should wear eye safety goggles.”

[There may be virus in conjunctival secretion of patients with COVID-19](#)

Acta Ophthalmologica

“The human cornea and conjunctiva express ACE2 receptor, which can theoretically bind to the 2019-nCoV and cause infection.”

[How do we plan hematopoietic cell transplant and cellular therapy with the looming COVID-19 threat?](#)

British Journal of Haematology

“It is still too early to forecast the risk of infection and disease severity of COVID-19 in HCT patients, but it likely to follow the deleterious course previously reported by other community-acquired respiratory viruses”

Cochrane Library

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): evidence relevant to critical care](#)

Healthcare Databases

Children and Neonates

[COVID-19 in Children: Initial Characterization of the Pediatric Disease.](#)

Pediatrics

“Available data suggest that children may have more upper respiratory tract (including nasopharyngeal carriage), rather than lower respiratory tract involvement. There is also evidence of fecal shedding in the stool for several weeks after diagnosis, leading to concern about fecal-oral transmission of the virus, particularly for infants and children who are not toilet-trained, and for viral replication in the gastrointestinal tract.”

[Mitigate the effects of home confinement on children during the COVID-19 outbreak](#)

Lancet

Letter: “Sprang and Silman showed that the mean post-traumatic stress scores were four times higher in children who had been quarantined than in those who were not quarantined.”

[A 55-Day-Old Female Infant infected with COVID 19: presenting with pneumonia, liver injury, and heart damage.](#)

The Journal of Infectious Diseases

“We report a 55-day-old case with COVID-19 confirmed in China and describe the identification, diagnosis, clinical course, and treatment of the patient, including the disease progression from day 7 to day 11 of illness. This case highlights that children with COVID-19 can also present with multiple organ damage and rapid disease changes”

[Clinical features of pediatric patients with COVID-19: a report of two family cluster cases.](#)

World Journal of Pediatrics

“The two confirmed children only presented with mild respiratory or gastrointestinal symptoms. Both of them had normal chest CT images. After general and symptomatic treatments, both children recovered quickly.”

[First Pediatric Case of Coronavirus Disease 2019 in Korea.](#)

Journal of Korean Medical Science

“In this report, we present mild clinical course of her pneumonia that did not require antiviral treatment and serial viral test results from multiple specimens.”

[Clinical features of severe pediatric patients with coronavirus disease 2019 in Wuhan: a single center's observational study.](#)

World Journal of Pediatrics

“In this series of severe pediatric patients in Wuhan, polypnea was the most common symptom, followed by fever and cough. Common imaging changes included multiple patch-like shadows and ground-glass opacity; and a cytokine storm was found in these patients, which appeared more serious in critically ill patients”

Healthcare workers

[COVID-19: protecting health-care workers](#)

The Lancet

Editorial “It is vital that governments see workers not simply as pawns to be deployed, but as human individuals. In the global response, the safety of health-care workers must be ensured.”

[Covid-19: pregnant doctors should speak to occupational health, say experts](#)

BMJ

“Government guidance advises people with an increased risk of severe illness from covid-19, including pregnant women, to be particularly stringent in following social distancing measures. This means avoiding contact with others as much as possible”

[Exploring the reasons for healthcare workers infected with novel coronavirus disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) in China](#)

The Journal of Hospital Infection

“shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) was also a serious problem. First-level emergency responses have been initiated in various parts of the country, which has led to a rapid increase in the demand for PPE. This circumstance increased the risk of infection for healthcare workers due to lacking of sufficient PPE”

[Stepping Forward: Urologists' Efforts During the COVID-19 Outbreak in Singapore](#)

European Urology

“the COVID-19 outbreak undoubtedly interrupted residency training and undergraduate education. With the rigors of undergraduate medicine and residency, it is easy to forget empathy, morality, and social responsibilities as a doctor. This outbreak was taken as an opportunity to remind junior doctors of the humanitarian aspect of medicine, as in the Hippocratic oath: “I will remember that I remain a member of society, with special obligations to all my fellow human beings, those sound of mind and body as well as the infirm””

[What Should Gastroenterologists and Patients Know About COVID-19?](#)

Clinical gastroenterology and hepatology

“Of note for gastroenterologists, patients may complain of gastrointestinal symptoms such as nausea or diarrhea. In the prior SARS coronavirus outbreak, diarrhea was reported in up to 25% of patients.

Interestingly, the cell entry receptor ACE2 appears to mediate entry of SARS-CoV-2 (similar to SARS) and has been demonstrated to be highly expressed in small intestinal enterocytes”

[American Association for Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology \(AABIP\) Statement on the Use of Bronchoscopy and Respiratory Specimen Collection in Patients with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 Infection](#)

Journal of Bronchology & Interventional Pulmonology

“Because it is an aerosol generating procedure that poses substantial risk to patients and staff, bronchoscopy should have an extremely limited role in diagnosis of COVID-19 and only be considered in intubated patients if upper respiratory samples are negative and other diagnosis is considered that would significantly change clinical management.”

[Skin damage among healthcare workers managing coronavirus disease-2019.](#)

Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology

“Considering the frequent hand hygiene and long-time wearing of tertiary protective devices ((N95 mask, goggles, face shield and double-layers gloves) among healthcare workers during the epidemic period of COVID-19, we aim to estimate the prevalence, clinical features and risk factors of these skin damages among them.”

[Partha Kar: Covid-19-we must keep faith in our experts.](#)

BMJ

“People with diabetes are at increased risk of illness if they contract covid-19. Thankfully, there is some reliable information around. If you’re a healthcare professional and you’d like to direct your patient to a reliable source, it’s worth looking at the information from Diabetes UK and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF UK), which has been developed in conjunction with NHS England and Public Health England”

[COVID-19 Infection: Implications for Perioperative and Critical Care Physicians](#)

Anesthesiology

“This review provides a comprehensive summary of the evidence currently available to guide management of critically ill patients with COVID-19”

[Nursing and the Novel Coronavirus: Risks and Responsibilities in a Global Outbreak](#)

Journal of Advanced Nursing

Editorial “Nurses will continue to be at the front line of patient care in hospitals and closely involved with assessment and monitoring in outpatient and community settings. They must ensure that all patients receive individualized, high-quality care regardless of their infection status and participate in preparation for increased nursing and health system demand related to COVID-19. Nurses also must continue to provide education to patients and the public about the outbreak”

Pregnancy

[Pregnancy and Perinatal Outcomes of Women With Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\) Pneumonia: A Preliminary Analysis.](#)

American journal of roentgenology

“Pregnancy and childbirth did not aggravate the course of symptoms or CT features of COVID-19 pneumonia. All the cases of COVID-19 pneumonia in the pregnant women in our study were the mild type. All the women in this study—some of whom did not receive antiviral drugs—achieved good recovery from COVID-19 pneumonia.

[An Analysis of 38 Pregnant Women with COVID-19, Their Newborn Infants, and Maternal-Fetal Transmission of SARSCoV-2: Maternal Coronavirus Infections and Pregnancy Outcomes](#)

Archives of pathology & laboratory medicine

“At this point in the global pandemic of COVID-19 infection there is no evidence that SARSCoV-2 undergoes intrauterine or transplacental transmission from infected pregnant women to their fetuses. Analysis of additional cases is necessary to determine if this remains true.”

[Expert consensus for managing pregnant women and neonates born to mothers with suspected or confirmed novel coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)

International journal of gynaecology and obstetrics

“Currently, there is no clear evidence regarding optimal delivery timing, the safety of vaginal delivery, or whether cesarean delivery prevents vertical transmission at the time of delivery; therefore, route of delivery and delivery timing should be individualized based on obstetrical indications and maternal–fetal status”

[Perinatal Transmission of COVID-19 Associated SARS-CoV-2: Should We Worry?](#)

Clinical Infectious Diseases

This report provided evidence of low risk of intrauterine infection by vertical transmission of SARS-CoV-2.

[Safety and efficacy of different anesthetic regimens for parturients with COVID-19 undergoing Cesarean delivery: a case series of 17 patients](#)

Canadian Journal of Anesthesia

“Both epidural and general anesthesia were safely used for Cesarean delivery in the parturients with COVID-19. Nevertheless, the incidence of hypotension during epidural anesthesia appeared excessive”

Adults and older patients

[Clinical Features of 69 Cases with Coronavirus Disease 2019 in Wuhan, China](#)

Clinical Infectious Diseases

“Older patients or those with underlying comorbidities are at higher risk of death.”

[Clinical characteristics of refractory COVID-19 pneumonia in Wuhan, China.](#)

Clinical Infectious Diseases

“Compared with general COVID-19 patients (45.2%), refractory patients had an older age, male sex, more underlying comorbidities...”

[Transmission potential and severity of COVID-19 in South Korea.](#)

International journal of infectious diseases

“The crude case fatality rate is higher among males (1.1%) compared to females (0.4%) and increases with older age.”

[COVID-19 and the consequences of isolating the elderly](#)

The Lancet

“Isolating the elderly might reduce transmission, which is most important to delay the peak in cases, and minimise the spread to high-risk groups. However, adherence to isolation strategies is likely to decrease over time.”

[Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\): A Systematic Review of Imaging Findings in 919 Patients.](#)

American Journal of Roentology

“Atypical initial imaging presentation of consolidative opacities superimposed on GGO may be found in a smaller number of cases, mainly in the elderly population. Septal thickening, bronchiectasis, pleural thickening, and subpleural involvement are some of the less common findings, mainly in the later stages of the disease”

[SARS-CoV2: should inhibitors of the renin-angiotensin system be withdrawn in patients with COVID-19?](#)

European Heart Journal

“based on currently available data and in view of the overwhelming evidence of mortality reduction in cardiovascular disease, ACE-I and ARB therapy should be maintained or initiated in patients with heart failure, hypertension, or myocardial infarction according to current guidelines as tolerated, irrespective of SARS-CoV2.”

[Recurrence of positive SARS-CoV-2 RNA in COVID-19: A case report](#)

International Journal of Infectious Diseases

“We report a confirmed case of COVID-19 whose oropharyngeal swab test of SARS-CoV-2 RNA turned positive in convalescence”

General

[Covid-19 and the Stiff Upper Lip - The Pandemic Response in the United Kingdom.](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

“What is not in doubt is that barring a miracle, a treatment, and ultimately a vaccine, the NHS in the United Kingdom is about to experience a challenge unlike any other in its 70 years of existence.”

[Can we contain the COVID-19 outbreak with the same measures as for SARS?](#)

The Lancet Infectious Diseases

“SARS was eventually contained by means of syndromic surveillance, prompt isolation of patients, strict enforcement of quarantine of all contacts, and in some areas top-down enforcement of community quarantine. By interrupting all human-to-human transmission, SARS was effectively eradicated”

[COVID-19: a recommendation to examine the effect of hydroxychloroquine in preventing infection and progression](#)

Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy

“There is an urgent need to identify safe and effective drugs for treatment. Chloroquine (CQ) exhibits a promising inhibitory effect. However, the clinical use of CQ can cause severe side effects. We propose that hydroxychloroquine (HCQ), which exhibits an antiviral effect highly similar to that of CQ, could serve as a better therapeutic approach. HCQ is likely to attenuate the severe progression of COVID-19, inhibiting the cytokine storm by suppressing T cell activation”

[COVID-19 in gastroenterology: a clinical perspective](#)

Gut

“Therefore, as SARS-CoV2 spreads across all major continents, it is important that gastroenterologists remain vigilant for variant cases that mimic atypical pneumonia, gastroenteritis, viral hepatitis or dengue fever.¹² Another important consideration is endoscopy, which carries a risk of disease transmission if attending healthcare workers are not wearing appropriate personal protective equipment.”

[Interventions to mitigate early spread of SARS-CoV-2 in Singapore: a modelling study](#)

The Lancet Infectious Diseases

“quarantine and workplace distancing should be prioritised over school closure because at this early stage, symptomatic children have higher withdrawal rates from school than do symptomatic adults from work”

[Clinical characteristics of 24 asymptomatic infections with COVID-19 screened among close contacts in Nanjing, China](#)

Science China. Life Sciences

“These results highlighted the importance of close contact tracing and longitudinally surveillance via virus nucleic acid tests. Further isolation recommendation and continuous nucleic acid tests may also be recommended to the patients discharged.”

[Challenges to the system of reserve medical supplies for public health emergencies: reflections on the outbreak of the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 \(SARS-CoV-2\) epidemic in China.](#)

Bioscience Trends

“Based on international experiences with pandemic control, the world should emphasize improving the system of emergency reserve medical supplies in the process of establishing and improving public health emergency response systems, and it should promote the establishment of international cooperative programs to jointly deal with public health emergencies of international concern in the future”

[Clinical course and mortality risk of severe COVID-19.](#)

The Lancet

Comment: “The report by Zhou and colleagues also provides data on viral shedding.²

Throat swabs were obtained every other day and were PCR positive for a median of 20.0 days (IQR 16.0–23.0) after onset of symptoms. In survivors, median duration of viral shedding was 20.0 days (17.0–24.0), ranging from 8 to 37 days, but the virus was detectable until death in non-survivors.”

[Should biologics for psoriasis be interrupted in the era of COVID-19?](#)

Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology

Letter to the editor: We do not know if biologic therapies render patients more susceptible to coronavirus, but we know that in a pre-coronavirus era, respiratory infection rates were comparable to placebo. Conversely, discontinuation of some biologics can result in loss of response when treatments are reintroduced or even result in the formation of antibodies to the discontinued biologic.

[Covid-19 outbreak in northern Italy: first practical indications for radiotherapy departments](#)

International journal of radiation oncology, biology, physics

“This report presents a few practical suggestions that came up from the first two weeks of collective work under emergency conditions and is the result of a joint effort to ensure continuity of therapies while protecting patients, health professionals, and the general population”

[SARS-CoV-2 turned positive in a discharged patient with COVID-19 arouses concern regarding the present standard for discharge.](#)

International Journal of Infectious Diseases

“Up to now, although no evidence demonstrated that a discharged patient who had repeated SARS-CoV-2 nucleic acid positive could be infectious to others, the patient reported by us showed high viral load for SARS-CoV-2 nucleic acid after discharge”

[Effect of gastrointestinal symptoms on patients infected with COVID-19.](#)

Gastroenterology

“Among all patients, 211 (83%), 98 (38.6%) and 66 (26%) complained of fever, cough, and GI symptoms, respectively.”

[Point-of-Care RNA-Based Diagnostic Device for COVID-19.](#)

Diagnostics

Editorial: “We believe that research into the development of a paper-based RNA assay for use in combination with a smartphone application can provide new insights into designing POC COVID-19 diagnostics and ultimately improve the health care system to combat this and similar diseases.”

[Temporal Changes of CT Findings in 90 Patients with COVID-19 Pneumonia: A Longitudinal Study](#)

Radiology

“The extent of lung abnormalities on CT peaked during illness days 6-11. The temporal changes of the diverse CT manifestations followed a specific pattern, which might indicate the progression and recovery of the illness”

[Recommendations for the prevention, mitigation and containment of the emerging SARS-CoV-2 \(COVID-19\) pandemic in haemodialysis centres.](#)

Nephrology, dialysis, transplantation

“The aim of the present review of the European Dialysis (EUDIAL) Working Group of ERA-EDTA is to provide recommendations for the prevention, mitigation and containment in haemodialysis centres of the emerging COVID-19 pandemic. The management of patients on dialysis affected by COVID-19 must be carried out according to strict protocols to minimize the risk for other patients and personnel taking care of these patients.”

[Prepare to adapt: Blood supply and transfusion support during the first 2 weeks of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) pandemic affecting Washington State.](#)

Transfusion

“As community activities are disrupted and hospital activities switch from routine operations to pandemic-focused and urgent care-oriented, the blood supply and utilization requires a number of transformations.”

[Covid-19: European drugs agency to review safety of ibuprofen](#)

BMJ

“The EMA has now said: “There is currently no scientific evidence establishing a link between ibuprofen and worsening of covid-19. EMA is monitoring the situation closely and will review any new information that becomes available on this issue in the context of the pandemic.””

Useful Links

[BMJ – latest news and resources for COVID-19](#)

[European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control](#)

[GOV.UK](#)

[Health protection Scotland](#)

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[Oxford University Press](#)

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The Clinical Librarian team are here to help with evidence searches, current awareness and training with information seeking skills, critical appraisal and referencing. We can assist you remotely, at your place of work or in the library at the QuAD Centre.

If you have any further enquiries please do not hesitate to get in touch.

You can contact us by email at Clinical.Librarian@porthosp.nhs.uk or call extension 6042.

Alternatively you can contact one of the team directly:

Rebecca.Howes@portshosp.nhs.uk

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The Clinical Librarian team endeavours to find as much of the latest evidence in your clinical area as possible, however make no claim as to the exhaustive nature of the update.

For more specific areas of interest we would recommend a literature search or KnowledgeShare bulletin.