

COVID-19 Evidence Bulletin

20th May 2020

Details of new guidance and evidence relating to the response to COVID-19. Please check SaTH, NHS and Government guidance in conjunction with these resources where necessary.

General

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19): Questions and answers [Evidence summary from UpToDate]

[This topic provides answers to some of the most commonly asked questions by UpToDate users]

Available [here](#)

Management of coexisting conditions in the context of COVID-19 [Evidence summary from BMJ Best Practice]

[Covers a range of coexisting conditions and patient groups including patients receiving systemic anti-cancer therapy and patients receiving radiotherapy, perinatal care, HIV infection, dementia, epilepsy, migraine and myocardial infarction]

Available [here](#). Last updated 18th May.

Critical and Intensive Care

Nasogastric tube placement checks before first use in critical care settings during the COVID-19 response

[British Association of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition]

[This easy reference guide has been produced because some aspects of COVID-19 presentation and treatment present special challenges for safely confirming nasogastric tube position. The dense ground-glass x-ray images can make x-ray interpretation more difficult, and the increasing use of proning manoeuvres in conscious patients increases the risk of regurgitation of gastric contents into the oesophagus and aspiration into the lungs which will render pH checks less reliable]

Available [here](#)

Multidisciplinary guidance for safe tracheostomy care during the COVID-19 pandemic: the NHS National Patient Safety Improvement Programme (NatPatSIP) [McGrath. *Anaesthesia* 2020]

[This consensus guidance includes: infectivity of patients with respect to tracheostomy indications and timing; aerosol-generating procedures and risks to staff; insertion procedures; and management following tracheostomy. These consensus recommendations are based on expert opinion and informed by the best available evidence and published guidance where possible.]

Available [here](#) (NHS OpenAthens account required)

Emergency Care

COVID-19: Resetting Emergency Department Care [Royal College of Emergency Medicine]

[This position statement makes recommendations about how care in Emergency Departments in the UK needs to be transformed.]

Available [here](#)

Gastroenterology

COVID-19 rapid guideline: gastrointestinal and liver conditions treated with drugs affecting the immune response [National Institute for Health and Care Excellence]

[The purpose of this guideline is to maximise the safety of children and adults who have gastrointestinal or liver conditions treated with drugs affecting the immune response during the COVID 19 pandemic. It also aims to protect staff from infection and enable services to make the best use of NHS resources.]

Available [here](#)

Laboratories

Guidance: COVID-19: guidance for sampling and for diagnostic laboratories [Public Health England]

[Information for clinical diagnostic laboratories regarding safety, sampling and packaging specimens associated with COVID-19.

Available [here](#). Last updated 14th May.

Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Guidance for maternal medicine services in the evolving coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic [Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists]

Available [here](#)

Ophthalmology

Rapid Review: Diabetic retinopathy screening during the COVID-19 pandemic [Evidence review by the Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine].

[This rapid review addresses the following questions: How can we help stratify annual retinal screening programmes for PWD during the COVID-19 pandemic? Can we do remote retinal review for PWD? What can we do to control the risk factors for development or progression of diabetic retinopathy during the COVID-19 pandemic? Is hydroxychloroquine safe to use in individuals with diabetic retinopathy?]

Available [here](#)

Paediatrics

Paediatric multisystem inflammatory syndrome temporally associated with COVID-19 [ICM Anaesthesia COVID-19]

[Anaesthetic teams may be asked to review and assist in resuscitation and stabilisation of these children and this document from the Evelina London summarises some of the features of the presentation in this group of patients and associated anaesthetic considerations.]

Available [here](#)

Guidance: Paediatric multisystem inflammatory syndrome temporally associated with COVID-19 [Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health]

Available [here](#)

Paediatric inflammatory multisystem syndrome and SARS -CoV CoV-2 infection in children [Rapid Risk Assessment by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control]

Several countries affected by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic recently reported cases of children that were hospitalised in intensive care due to a rare paediatric inflammatory multisystem syndrome (PIMS)

Available [here](#)

Palliative Care

Clinical guide for supporting compassionate visiting arrangements for those receiving care at the end of life

[NHS England]

Available [here](#)

Pharmacology

COVID-19 rapid evidence summary: acute use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) for people with or at risk of COVID-19 [National Institute for Health and Care Excellence]

[The available evidence suggests that, although the anti-inflammatory effects of NSAIDs reduce acute symptoms (such as fever), they may either have no effect on, or worsen, long-term outcomes, possibly by masking symptoms of worsening acute respiratory tract infection. Further evidence is needed to confirm this, and to determine whether these results also apply to infections such as COVID-19.]

Available [here](#)

Rehabilitation

Recovery and Rehabilitation for Patients Following the Pandemic [Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine]

[The Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic has put a strain on NHS critical care services. Whilst recovering from the acute phase of the pandemic, we need to think of the aftermath and seek solutions to provide effective recovery and rehabilitation services for affected patients and their families. This is a unique opportunity to elevate public understanding of the impact of critical illness on outcomes and recovery]

Available [here](#)

Rehabilitation of adults who are hospitalised due to Covid-19: physiotherapy service delivery [Chartered Society of Physiotherapy]

[The CSP has developed these standards in direct response to the rapidly evolving situation]

Available [here](#)

Renal Care

COVID-19 rapid guideline: chronic kidney disease [National Institute for Health and Care Excellence]

Available [here](#)

Respiratory Care

Is oxygen an effective treatment option to alleviate the symptoms of breathlessness for patients dying with COVID-19 and what are the potential harms? [Evidence summary from the Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine]

Available [here](#)

COVID-19 rapid guideline: interstitial lung disease [National Institute for Health and Care Excellence]

Available [here](#)

Surgery

Perioperative care of patients with hip and major fragility fractures during the COVID-19 pandemic [Consensus statement from the Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine, Intensive Care Society, Association of Anaesthetists and Royal College of Anaesthetists]

Available [here](#)

Transplantation

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19): Issues related to solid organ transplantation [Evidence summary from UpToDate]

Available [here](#)

KnowledgeShare Evidence Alerts

KnowledgeShare contains many updates on COVID-19 that can be accessed from the [KnowledgeShare website](#) without a password. If you'd like to receive these by email (along with updates on any other topics of interest) please complete the [form](#).

About this bulletin

The COVID-19 Evidence Bulletin is prepared by Shrewsbury and Telford Health Libraries. Links to the full-text of items listed is provided where available, but if you need copies of any items where no full-text is available, please request them the [Article Request](#) form. Some items require an [NHS OpenAthens](#) account.

For more information, please contact

Jason Curtis
Site Librarian
Shrewsbury Health Library
Learning Centre
Royal Shrewsbury Hospital
jason.curtis1@nhs.net
01743 492511 or 261440

Louise Stevens
Site Librarian
Telford Health Library
Education Centre
Princess Royal Hospital
l.stevens@nhs.net
01952 641222 Ext. 4694 or Ext. 4440