

COVID-19 Evidence Bulletin

15th July 2021

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

COVID-19: Preparing for the future: Looking ahead to winter 2021/22 and beyond [Academy of Medical Sciences]

[A combination of COVID-19, influenza, and the respiratory virus Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), could push an already depleted NHS to breaking point this winter. The report urges policy makers and the NHS to prepare now for a challenging winter.]

Available [here](#)

Cardiovascular Care

COVID-19 and adult congenital heart disease services: impact on support and advice from nurse specialists [Anthony J. *British Journal of Nursing*]

[Although the focus on service provision in response to the COVID-19 pandemic has mainly been on acute and particularly intensive care, it is important to consider other services that are still needed. This is especially the case for vulnerable patients with long-term conditions, such as those under the care of an adult congenital heart disease (ACHD) service.]

Available [here](#)

Diabetes

Diabetes and COVID-19: Population Impact 18 Months Into the Pandemic [Gregg EW. *Diabetes Care*]

[Review summarises relationship of diabetes to COVID-19–related morbidity and mortality, discusses predictors of severe adverse outcomes and implications of overall pandemic. It critiques current status of and identifies needs for epidemiological studies for the next phase of pandemic.]

Available [here](#)

Digital Health

Remote home monitoring (virtual wards) for confirmed or suspected COVID-19 patients: a rapid systematic review [Vindrola-Padros C. *EClinicalMedicine*]

[A rapid systematic review on models led by primary and secondary care across seven countries (US, Australia, Canada, The Netherlands, Ireland, China, UK) identified 27 articles. Monitoring was carried out via online platforms, paper-based systems with telephone calls or (less frequently) through wearable sensors. No substantive conclusions regarding patient safety and the identification of early deterioration due to lack of standardized reporting and missing data.]

Available [here](#)

Drug Therapy

Association Between Administration of IL-6 Antagonists and Mortality Among Patients Hospitalized for COVID-19: A Meta-analysis [The WHO Rapid Evidence Appraisal for COVID-19 Therapies (REACT)

Working Group. *JAMA Network Open*]

[Administration of IL-6 antagonists, compared with usual care or placebo, was associated with lower 28-day all-cause mortality in patients hospitalized for COVID-19.]

Available [here](#)

ENT

Emergency management of neck stoma patients during the coronavirus pandemic: a national nurse survey [Senior A. *British Journal of Nursing*]

[Neck stoma patient care involves significant clinical complexity. Inadequate staff training, equipment provision and infrastructure have all been highlighted as causes for avoidable patient harm. This study aimed to establish the perception of knowledge and confidence levels relating to the emergency management of neck stomas among UK nurses during the COVID-19 pandemic.]

Available [here](#)

Ethics

Principles for pandemics: COVID-19 and professional ethical guidance in England and Wales [Smith H. *BMC Medical Ethics*]

[During the early months of the pandemic, the authors undertook a rapid review, asking: what are the principles adopted by professional ethical guidance in England and Wales for dealing with COVID-19? The 29 documents captured 13 overlapping principles: respect, fairness, minimising harm, reciprocity, proportionality, flexibility, working together, inclusiveness, communication, transparency, reasonableness, responsibility, and accountability.]

Available [here](#)

Health Inequalities

Unequal pandemic, fairer recovery The COVID-19 impact inquiry report [The Health Foundation]

[This report, produced by the Health Foundation's COVID-19 impact inquiry, is a comprehensive review of the factors that fuelled the UK's COVID-19 death toll.]

Available [here](#)

Health Services Restoration and Renewal

An interactive tool for enhancing hospital capacity predictions using an epidemiological model

[Gibson, F. *GECCO'21 proceedings*]

[This study was designed with the Welsh National Health Service, and was born out of their practical need of accurately modelling hospital occupancy during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.]

Available [here](#)

Long COVID

Enhanced service specification: Long COVID 2021/22 [NHS England]

[This enhanced service specification aims to support general practice in managing Long COVID.]

Available [here](#)

Persistent symptoms following SARS-CoV-2 infection in a random community sample of 508,707 people [Imperial College London]

[Random samples of the population between September 2020 and February 2021 found that nearly 27,000 (around 6%) reported experiencing at least one of 29 symptoms linked with COVID-19 for 12 weeks or more.]

Available [here](#). Note: this is a pre-print, and has not yet been peer-reviewed.

COVID-19: Evaluation and management of adults following acute viral illness [evidence summary from UpToDate]

[In this topic we will discuss the evaluation and management of adults during the post-acute and chronic recovery phase from COVID-19, which is based upon evolving evidence]

Available [here](#). Last updated 25th

How long does long COVID last? [ZOE COVID Symptom Study]

[Data from our COVID Symptom Study suggests that while most people recover from COVID-19 within two weeks, one in ten people may still have symptoms after three weeks, and some may suffer for months.]

Available [here](#)

What models of care are available for patients recovering from COVID-19 with persisting symptoms?

What models of care are available for long COVID, or post-acute sequelae of COVID-19? [evidence summary from Irish National Health Library and Knowledge Service]

Available [here](#)

Mental Health

The effect of COVID-19 lockdown on the incidence of deliberate self-harm injuries presenting to the emergency room [Henry N. *International Journal of Psychiatry in Medicine*]

[The UK government introduced strict social distancing measures on 23rd March 2020. An observational study from a level one trauma center was carried out. Retrospective data from 23rd March 2020 to 1st May 2020 was collected and compared to the same time period in 2019. Societal lockdown measures have had a significant effect on the mental health of patients. One way this can be detected is through an increased incidence and severity of deliberate self-harm injuries presenting to the ED.]

Available [here](#)

A systematic review of neuropsychological and psychiatric sequelae of COVID-19: implications for treatment [Vanderlind W M. *Current Opinion in Psychiatry*]

[Emerging findings link COVID-19 to cognitive deficits, particularly attention, executive function, and memory. Psychiatric symptoms occur at high rates in COVID-19 survivors, including anxiety, depression, fatigue, sleep disruption, and to a lesser extent posttraumatic stress. Symptoms appear to endure, and severity of acute illness is not directly predictive of severity of cognitive or mental health issues.]

Available [here](#)

Obstetrics

Pregnancy related risks associated with COVID-19: A Rapid Review [SPOR Evidence Alliance]

[While there are many evidence syntheses, their poor quality and lack of including numerous potentially relevant studies, reflects the need for more well-conducted evidence syntheses to answer the questions of relevance to this review.]

Available [here](#)

Vaccination

Evidence-based strategies to promote vaccine acceptance [While A. *British Journal of Community Nursing*]

[Key Points: Herd immunity through vaccination depends upon high levels of vaccine uptake; Vaccination promotion should focus upon the unvaccinated and under-vaccinated populations; Understanding the information need is an important first step; Information should be clear, concise and targeted at the audience individual; Barriers to vaccine uptake should be minimised.]

Available [here](#)

VacciNation: Exploring vaccine confidence [Healthwatch England]

[Our new research explores vaccine confidence amongst people from African, Bangladeshi, Caribbean, and Pakistani backgrounds. We want to understand these barriers to ensure key lessons are taken forward for future public health campaigns.]

Available [here](#)

Bridging the uptake gap – COVID-19 vaccination toolkit for Black African and Black African Caribbean communities [NHS England]

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/publication/bridging-the-uptake-gap-covid-19-vaccination-toolkit-for-black-african-and-black-african-caribbean-communities/>

[Evidence-based good practice for increasing vaccination confidence and uptake among Black African and Black African Caribbean populations.]

Available [here](#)

Rapid Review: What is the Effectiveness, Immunogenicity and Safety of COVID-19 Vaccines in Persons Who Have Had a Prior, Confirmed COVID-19 Infection? [SPOR Evidence Alliance]

[In Canada, four vaccines have been approved to prevent COVID-19: AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD, Janssen, Moderna and PfizerBioNTech. Given the immune system's previous exposure to the virus, it is not known whether the twodose schedule is appropriate for those with prior infection, what differences may exist in immunogenicity response between those with and without prior infection, and whether there may be differences in adverse events in response to vaccination in those with prior infection.]

Available [here](#)

Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination in pregnancy [Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists]

[This is an interim update to the main coronavirus infection and pregnancy guidance to summarise, in a format useful for maternity care, evidence presented in existing COVID-19 vaccination guidance.]

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 may require an [NHS OpenAthens account](#).

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