Welcome to the latest COVID-19 Update. Information with regards COVID-19 is emerging at a rapid pace, this evidence update will be produced weekly during the crisis. It will highlight a few sources of knowledge and appropriate documents – most websites are open access at the time of writing. Note at the moment most publishers are allowing free access to articles on COVID-19 that would normally be restricted to paid subscriptions. Please feel free to print and share the bulletin.

Should an article be difficult to obtain try accessing via your Athens account, or please contact us and we will obtain it on your behalf. If you do not have an NHS Open Athens account register at https://openathens.nice.org.uk/

Alternatively, RWT have an online document supply request form for requesting journal articles, leading to a faster and more efficient service. Register now at http://www.basedoc.co.uk with your Base Library card username and password. If you cannot access the full text or do not have a BASE Library card, please contact the library, who will be able to assist you at rwh-tr.Belllibrary@nhs.net

RWT Libraries are no longer physically staffed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but we are all working from home and will continue to support your information and knowledge needs. Please contact us on the library generic e-mail above. Thank you.

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Library Resources and Databases

**Microsoft Academic.**
Search engine that is similar to Google Scholar produced by Microsoft. Website: https://academic.microsoft.com/home

**Science Open Collections.**
Search engine for open access journal, covering 63 million publication, 25 thousand journal titles and 27 million authors. Website: https://www.scienceopen.com/

Official Publications

**BMJ Best Practice**
Low-dose **dexamethasone** is the first treatment to be shown to reduce mortality in patients with COVID-19 requiring oxygen or ventilator support according to preliminary results from the RECOVERY trial in the UK. **Dexamethasone** was found to reduce deaths by one third in patients who were ventilated, and by one fifth in patients who were receiving oxygen only. The benefit was not observed in patients with milder disease. **Synopsis of Best Practice.**
Full text at: https://bestpractice.bmj.com/topics/en-gb/3000168/treatment-algorithm

**UK Government Reports**
How to protect care home residents and staff during the coronavirus outcome. **Guideline.**

Department of Health and Social Care. *Meeting people from outside your household from 4th July.* DHSC, 23rd June 2020. [Online].
How you can see people that you do not live with while protecting yourself and others from coronavirus (COVID-19) from 4 July 2020. **Guideline.**
Full text at: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/meeting-people-from-outside-your-household-from-4-july

Interim advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) on the groups that should be prioritised for vaccination, if and when a vaccine is available. **Report.**

This pack has been prepared ahead of the debate to be held in the Commons Chamber on Thursday 18 June 2020 on the effect of Covid-19 on Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) communities. The debate will be opened by Dawn Butler MP. **Report.**
Full text at: https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CDP-2020-0074/CDP-2020-0074.pdf

Advice and information on how to look after our mental health and wellbeing during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, including advice on bubbles. **Guidance.**

Covid-19 Evidence Update, Issue 14 26th June 2020

Full text at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-understanding-the-impact-on-bame-communities

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**Centre for Evidence Based Practice**

Armitage, L. C. and Brettell, R. **Inhaled corticosteroids: a rapid review of the evidence for the treatment or prevention of COVID-19.** CEBM, 22nd June 2020. [Online]. This review aimed to synthesise the current literature on the role of inhaled corticosteroids in moderating the disease course or severity of COVID-19 disease. Inhaled ciclesonide has been shown to suppress SARS-CoV-2 replication in cultured cells and it is suggested that it exhibits direct acting anti-viral activity in addition to its intrinsic anti-inflammatory function. Inhaled ciclesonide has therefore been proposed as a candidate drug for treatment of patients suffering Covid19. However, further in vitro research is required to investigate whether this finding is replicable. Furthermore, at the time of writing, there have been no clinical trials or observational studies examining the use of ICS in COVID-19. Clinical trials would be required to establish whether these drugs may be repurposed for the treatment of this disease. **Rapid Review.**
Full text at: https://www.cebm.net/covid-19/inhaled-corticosteroids-a-rapid-review-of-the-evidence-for-treatment-or-prevention-of-covid-19/

Aronson, J.K., Ferner, R. E. and Nunan, D. **Emergency use authorization of remdesivir by the US Food and Drug Administration.** CEBM, 16th June 2020. [Online]. In its guidance document the FDA makes several recommendations about the kind of information that drug companies should submit when applying for Emergency Use Authorization. All of the FDA’s recommendations are labelled “nonbinding”, and without knowing the extent and quality of the information that has been supplied to the FDA under these regulations it is impossible to comment on whether it was justified in issuing the Emergency Use Authorization. Note added on 16 June: On 15 June the FDA revoked the emergency use authorization (EUA) that allowed chloroquine phosphate and hydroxychloroquine sulfate, donated to the Strategic National Stockpile, to be used to treat certain hospitalized patients with COVID-19 when a clinical trial was unavailable or participation in a clinical trial was not feasible. The FDA said that the legal criteria for issuing an EUA were no longer met and that the drugs were “unlikely to be effective in treating COVID-19 for the authorized uses in the EUA”. **Update.**
Full text at: https://www.cebm.net/covid-19/emergency-use-authorization-of-remdesivir-by-the-us-food-and-drug-administration/

Heneghan, C. and Jefferson, T. **COVID-19 evidence is lacking for 2 metre distancing.** CEBM, 19th June 2020. [Online]. Commentary on an article published in the Lancet, with concerns. **Commentary.**
Full text at: https://www.cebm.net/covid-19/covid-19-evidence-is-lacking-for-2-meter-distancing/

Heneghan, C. and Oke, J. **Thoughts on estimating excess mortality from COVID-19.** CEBM, 18th June 2020. [Online]. To estimate the excess mortality, a count of deaths from all causes relative to what would normally be expected is required. **Statistics and Morality**
Full text at: https://www.cebm.net/covid-19/thoughts-on-estimating-excess-mortality-from-covid-19/

Jefferson, T. et al. **Analysis of the evidence of transmission dynamics of COVID-19: protocol for a scoping evidence review.** CEBM, 22nd June 2020. [Online]. In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, uncertainty on the characteristics of a novel disease reigns. One of the most important aspects of these uncertainties regard the mode and circumstances of transmission of this newly identified agent. **Evidence Review.** **Summary of Protocol**
Full text at: https://www.cebm.net/evidence-synthesis/transmission-dynamics-of-covid-19/
The number of people dying with COVID-19 in hospitals in England each week has fallen from a peak of 899 on the 8th April to 50 on the 15 June. The number of people in hospital with COVID has fallen from a peak of 15,702 on the 10th of April to 2,891 on the 19th of June. The figure shows that the number of people with COVID-19 in hospital has fallen at a slower rate than the number of people dying. The number of people in hospital with COVID is reducing by 2.4% every day; halving every 29 days. The number of deaths is reducing by 4.3% per day: halving every 16 days. *Statistics and Mortality.*

Qureshi, Z. et al. *What is the evidence to support the 2-metre social distancing rule to reduce COVID-19 transmission.* CEBM, 22nd June 2020. [Online].
The 2-metre rule is based on an outdated dichotomy model which assumes viral transmission in either large droplets or small airborne particles. In reality, transmission is more complex. There is a continuum of droplet sizes and exhaled air shapes the range that they can reach. Distancing rules need to take account of multiple factors including viral load, ventilation, type of activity, indoor v outdoor setting and masks. *Rapid Review.*
Full text at: https://www.cebm.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2-metre-rule-PPTLB.jpg

**Cochrane Reviews**
None this issue.

**NICE**

The purpose of this guideline is to maximise the safety of patients on dialysis, while protecting staff from infection. It will also enable dialysis services to make the best use of NHS resources and match the capacity of dialysis services to patient needs if these become limited because of the COVID-19 pandemic. *Evidence Based Guideline.*
Full text at: https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng160

This guideline covers children, young people and adults who need or who have had a kidney transplant, and people who are donating a kidney (live donors). It also advises transplant and referring centres on how to run their services, while keeping them safe for patients, donors and staff during the COVID-19 pandemic. Kidney transplants improve life expectancy and quality of life, and cost less than dialysis in the long term, so providing effective and safe services will benefit patients and make the best use of resources. *Evidence Based Guideline.*
Full text at: https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/NG178

NICE. *Evidence standards framework for SARS-CoV-2 and anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody diagnostic tests. NICE,* 19th June 2020. [Online].
This framework is a 3-stage approach to collecting the best possible data and evidence in the short and long term, while tests are being quickly developed and validated during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Framework.*

*Guidance.*
Full text at: https://www.nice.org.uk/covid-19/support-for-developers-of-medicinal-products-for-covid-19
Royal Colleges

Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. Coronavirus (COVID-19) infection and pregnancy. RCOG, 19th June 2020. Version 10 of the coronavirus (COVID-19) infection in pregnancy guidance has been restructured to condense its content and ensure the evidence and rationale for advice is explicit. This version also contains new content on labour and birth for women who are asymptomatic of COVID-19, updates to advice for women with clinical deterioration, reference to the new testing frameworks and further advice regarding prevention of venous-thromboembolism. Guideline. Full text at: https://www.rcog.org.uk/coronavirus-pregnancy


The College of Optometrists. Use of non-contact tonometry to measure intra-ocular pressure during COVID-19. CoO, 16th June 2020. [Online]. This guidance has been developed by The Royal College of Ophthalmologists (RCOphth) and the College of Optometrists (CoO) in response to the pandemic and may be subject to change. We advise that, for both primary and secondary care settings, it is acceptable to restart the use of air puff tonometry, after undertaking a local risk assessment and whilst continuing to follow infection control and other guidance related to COVID-19 in optometric and ophthalmic settings. Guideline. Full text at: https://www.college-optometrists.org/the-college/media-hub/news-listing/non-contact-tonometry-covid-19.html

Uncover (University of Edinburgh)

Curry, G. et al. What is the evidence on ethnic variation on COVID-19 incidence and outcomes? Uncover, 28th May 2020. [Online]. Version 013-02. This rapid evidence review involves two elements: an analysis of intensive care data (INARC, 2020) and a rapid literature review. Our analysis of ICU data found evidence that, when compared to the general population, BAME people are more likely to be admitted to ICU. When compared to ICU patients in the UK with white ethnicity, BAME people are more likely to require renal support and advanced respiratory support and are more likely to die. Findings were similar when the analysis was restricted to patients of Asian or Black ethnicity. These differences were highly statistically significant. Longitudinal UK Biobank evidence (Niedzwiedz et al, 2020) found that BAME people were more likely to have confirmed infection and to be admitted to hospital compared with white British people. Evidence Review. Full text at: https://www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/uncover_summary_013-02_ethnicity_and_covid-19.pdf
UpToDate

None this issue.

World Health Organisation

None this issue.

Original Research

About Covid-19


Blundell, R. COVID-19 and inequalities. IFS, 11th June 2020. [Online]. This report aims to bring together what has emerged so far about the impacts of the Covid-19 crisis on inequalities across several key domains of life. It argues that the years leading up to the Covid-19 crisis, and in particular the hangover from the last economic crisis of the late 2000s, had already left households in a precarious position. Report. Full text at: https://www.ifs.org.uk/inequality/covid-19-and-inequalities/


Allergies

None this issue.

Anaesthetics

None this issue.
Business as Usual Post Covid-19

Cancer and Haematology Services
Full text at: https://www.nature.com/articles/s41375-020-0911-0

Full text at: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7280290/


Full text at: https://jitc.bmj.com/content/8/1/e000984.long

Full text at: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7289619/

Full text at: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2531137920300705?via%3Dihub

Full text at: https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10549-020-05739-7

Cardiology and Cardiothoracic Services
Full text at: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/clc.23384

Full text at: https://academic.oup.com/ehjcvp/advance-article/doi/10.1093/ehjcvp/pvaa064/5857623

Full text at: https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11606-020-05906-y


Full text at: https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10641963.2020.1783549

Containment, Transmission and Isolation


Full text at: https://content.iospress.com/articles/clinical-hemorheology-and-microcirculation/ch209004

Dermatology

None this issue.

Diagnosis and Testing

Al-Tawfiq, J. A. Diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection based on CT scan vs RT-PCR: reflecting on experience from MERS-CoV-2. Journal of Hospital Infection, 105 (2) 2020, pp. 154-155. Comparative Study. Click here for Abstract

Full text at: https://www.journalofhospitalinfection.com/article/S0195-6701(20)30100-6/pdf


Full text at: https://www.eurosurveillance.org/content/10.2807/1560-7917.ES.2020.25.23.2000980#html_fulltext


Full text at: https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0234765


Full text at: https://academic.oup.com/cid/advance-article/doi/10.1093/cid/ciaa760/5858938


Full text at: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1386653220302547?via%3Dihub


Full text at: https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10408363.2020.1774736


Full text at: https://s3.ca-central-1.amazonaws.com/assets.jmir.org/assets/preprints/preprint-19569-accepted.pdf


Education and Training

None this issue.

Elderly Care

None this issue.
Emergency Medicine

None this issue.

Endocrine and Diabetes

Full text at: https://www.nmcd-journal.com/article/S0939-4753(20)30207-6/pdf

Gastroenterology

None this issue.

Head and Neck Services

Full text at: https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs40368-020-00547-5

Full text at: https://www.mdpi.com/2077-0383/9/6/1833

Full text at: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7281886/

Infection Control and PPE


Full text at: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1477893920302301?via%3Dihub

Full text at: https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpubh.2020.00205/full

Intensive and Critical Care

Full text at: https://www.rcpjournals.org/content/clinmedicine/early/2020/06/04/clinmed.2020-0179


**Learning and Physical Disabilities**

*None this issue.*

**Liver and Hepatic Diseases**

Becchetti, C. et al. *COVID-19 in an international European liver transplant recipient cohort*. Gut, 22\textsuperscript{nd} June 2020. [Epub ahead of print]. *Cohort Study*. Click here for abstract. Full text at: https://gut.bmj.com/content/early/2020/06/25/gutjnl-2020-321923.long


**Mental Health and Well-being**

Allwood, L. and Bell, A. *COVID-19: understanding inequalities in mental health during the pandemic*. Centre for Mental Health, 25\textsuperscript{th} June 2020. [Online]. *Briefing Paper*. This briefing paper, supported by national mental health charities, explores the mental health inequalities that are associated with the pandemic in the UK. It finds that the virus and the lockdown are putting greater pressure on groups and communities whose mental health was already poorer and more precarious. Full text at: https://www.centreformentalhealth.org.uk/sites/default/files/2020-06/CentreforMentalHealth_CovidInequalities_0.pdf


**Musculoskeletal Disorders and Rheumatology**

*See Telemedicine and Technology*
Neurology and Stroke


Obstetrics and Gynaecology


Ophthalmology

None this issue.

Paediatric and Neonatal Services


Palliative and End of Life Care

None this issue.

Patient Information

None this issue.
Pathology and Autopsy


Full text at: [https://www.nature.com/articles/s41379-020-0601-5](https://www.nature.com/articles/s41379-020-0601-5)

Full text at: [https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7294857/](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7294857/)

*Systematic Review*. Click here for abstract.
Full text at: [https://www.nature.com/articles/s41379-020-0603-3](https://www.nature.com/articles/s41379-020-0603-3)

Pharmacy

None this issue.

Physical Activity, Lifestyle and Nutrition

None this issue.

Post Discharge and Rehabilitation


Full text at: [https://bjanaesthesia.org/article/S0007-0912(20)30403-7/pdf](https://bjanaesthesia.org/article/S0007-0912(20)30403-7/pdf)

Primary Care Practice

None this issue.

Prognosis

Full text at: [https://www.degruyter.com/view/journals/cclm/58/7/article-p1100.xml](https://www.degruyter.com/view/journals/cclm/58/7/article-p1100.xml)
Khamis, F. **Clinical characteristics and outcomes of the first 63 adult patients hospitalized with covid-19: an experience from Oman.** Journal of Infection and Public Health, 8th June 2020. [Epub ahead of print]. **Case Series.** Click here for abstract.

Full text at: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1876034120304962?via%3Dihub


Full text at: https://www.ijidonline.com/article/S1201-9712(20)30473-2/pdf


Full text at: https://academic.oup.com/jpubhealth/article/doi/10.1093/pubmed/fdaa095/5859581

Wu, S. et al. **Identification and validation of a novel clinical signature to predict the prognosis in confirmed COVID-19 patients.** Clinical Infectious Diseases, 18th June, 2020. [Epub ahead of print]. **Clinical Prediction Guide.** Click here for abstract.

Full text at: https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32556293/

**Racial and Ethnic Disparities**

Raisi-Estabragh, Z. et al. **Greater risk of severe covid-19 in black, asian and minority ethnic populations is not explained by cardiometabolic, socioeconomic or behavioural factors, or by 25(oh)-vitamin D status: study of 1326 cases from the UK biobank.** Journal of Public Health, 19th June 2020. [Epub ahead of print]. **Cohort Study.** Click here for abstract.

Full text at: https://academic.oup.com/jpubhealth/article/doi/10.1093/pubmed/fdaa095/5859581

**Radiology**


**Renal, Urology and Nephrology**

See also Transplantation

**Research and Trials**

None this issue.

**Residential, Specialist and Homeless Care**

None this issue.

**Respiratory Disease (other than COVID-19)**

Stevenson, A., Davis, S. and Murch, N. **Pulmonary embolism in acute medicine: a case-based review incorporating latest guidelines in the COVID-19 era.** British Journal of Hospital Medicine, 18th June 2020. [Epub ahead of print]. **Evidence Based Guideline.** Click here for abstract.


Covid-19 Evidence Update, Issue 14 26th June 2020
Safeguarding and Domestic Violence

None this issue.

Sexual Health and Fertility

None this issue.

Statistics and Mortality

None this issue.

Substance Abuse

None this issue.

Surgery

None this issue.

Telemedicine and Technology


Full text at: https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32566563/


Retrospective Cohort Study. Click here for abstract.

Full text at: https://preprints.jmir.org/preprint/19417/accepted


Retrospective Study. Click here for abstract.

Full text at: https://s3.ca-central-1.amazonaws.com/assets.jmir.org/assets/preprints/preprint-19514-accepted.pdf

Transplantation

None this issue.

Trauma and Orthopaedic Services

None this issue.

Treatments for COVID


Vaccines, Antibodies and Immunity

Full text at: https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00204-020-02787-2

Full text at: https://www.bmj.com/content/369/bmj.m2184.long

Full text at: https://jidc.org/index.php/journal/article/view/32525830/2249

Contact the library for full text.
The following sources have been searched for evidence published in the previous week.

- American Journal of Medicine
- JAMA
- BMJ
- KnowledgeShare
- BMJ Best Practice
- LIS-Medical
- CEBM Oxford
- McMasterPlus
- Cochrane Library
- Medscape
- Coronavirus Research Database
- New England Journal of Medicine
- DynaMed
- NICE Evidence
- Google Scholar
- NHS Networks
- HDAS Databases (Medline, Cinahl etc)
- Public Health Database
- PubMed
- SCIE
- The Lancet
- Trip Database
- Twitter
- Uncover
- Up-To-Date
- World Health Organisation

Please contact the editors for further information, or if you would like to receive a personal copy of the bulletin via your e-mail.

We hope you find this newsletter useful. Suggestions or comments? E-mail The Editor

If you require a search for information or knowledge with respect to a particular group of patients (e.g. pregnant or elderly, with asthma or psychological illness) please do let us know and we will endeavour to search for you.

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