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

Health and Care Video Library.
As part of the response to COVID-19, NHSX has secured a 6 month national licence for NHS clinicians to access a health and care video library of over 600 patient information videos free of charge. The videos have been developed and written by NHS clinicians to use within a wide range of care pathways including maternity, physiotherapy, rheumatology and podiatry. The library platform and the videos have been professionally produced by Health and Care Innovations (HCI). Join the onboarding webinars (see below) to get the most out of this resource. CPD.
Click here for access: https://healthandcarevideos.uk/

Infection control e-learning course. SCIE.
Infection prevention and control are essential to prevent the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). This video-based course for care providers in care homes and home care will teach you about the spread of infection and what you can do to protect both yourself and the people you care for. Registration and the package are free of charge.
Click here for access: https://www.scie.org.uk/e-learning/infection-control

Our NHS People. NHS England. 20 short guides to help support skills and new ways of working, including those working in primary care.
Click here for access: https://people.nhs.uk/

Official Publications

UK Government Reports

Care Quality Commission. COVID-19 Insight. CQC, 1st May 2020. [Online]. This issue focuses on: adult social care; outbreak data; the impact on care providers and staff; deaths from covid-19; the impact on non-covid care and areas of focus for CQC.
Full text at: https://www.cqc.org.uk/sites/default/files/20200501%20COVID%20Insight%20Update%20number%201%20ACCESSIBLE.pdf

Care Quality Commission. COVID-19 Insight: issue 2. CQC, 19th June 2020. [Online]. This issue focuses on: Working together across systems; the care of people from different groups, focus on primary care and data.

Department of Health and Social Care. Health secretary calls on country to get tested as access is expanded even further. DHSC, 26th June 2020. [Online]. Six new ‘walk through’ local testing sites are now offering appointments to people in England, with the capacity to test hundreds of people each day. Press Release.
Full text at: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/health-secretary-calls-on-country-to-get-tested-as-access-is-expanded-even-further

Full text at: https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research-briefings/cbp-8948/
NHS England has added two new sections to the GP Standard Operating Procedure. The updated sections are on: 1. Outbreak management in the context of COVID-19 – with a recommendation to review business continuity plans. 2. Suspected or diagnosed cancers, including ongoing cancer treatment – information on referral into secondary care. **Guideline.**

NHS England and NHS Improvement, together with Public Health England, has published clinical guidance for healthcare professionals on maintaining our NHS immunisation programmes during COVID-19. It gives advice on how to approach some of the specific challenges practices may face and includes a series of FAQs that can be used in communication with the public. The production of the guidance has been supported by the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) and the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH). **Guidelines.**
Full text at: https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/publication/preparedness-letters-for-general-practice/

This report, based on the first full survey of NHS trust leaders since Covid-19 started, sets out the scale of increased demand and the dramatic loss of capacity many trusts are now facing as the NHS juggles treating Covid-19 patients with restarting the full range of services. **Report.**
Full text at: https://nhsproviders.org/media/689775/recovery-position-what-next-for-the-nhs.pdf

Weekly number and percentage of care homes reporting a suspected or confirmed outbreak of COVID-19 to PHE by local authorities, regions and PHE centres. **Statistics.**

Advice for food businesses in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in the UK. 26 June 2020: Updated guidance to include new section on prevention of infection and revised section on management of outbreaks including contact details for health protection teams. **Guideline.**
Full text at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-food-businesses

Public Health England. **Insufficient evidence for vitamin D preventing or treating ARTIs.** PHE, 1st July 2020.[Online].
NICE and Scientific Advisory Commission on Nutrition (SACN) have reviewed available evidence on vitamin D and the risk of acute respiratory tract infections (ARTIs) and COVID-19. **News.**
Full text at: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/insufficient-evidence-for-vitamin-d-preventing-or-treating-artis

National COVID-19 surveillance reports, including weekly summary of findings monitored through various COVID-19 surveillance systems. **Statistics.**

Until recently, most people will never have heard of coronaviruses. But they, and the diseases they cause in humans and animals, have been recognized for over 50 years. **Overview.**

Full text at: https://www.cebm.net/covid-19/coronaviruses-a-general-introduction/


In 2014, during the Ebola virus epidemic, the WHO convened a panel “to consider and assess the ethical implications for clinical decision-making of use of unregistered interventions that have shown promising results in the laboratory and in animal models but that have not yet been evaluated for safety and efficacy in humans.” They concluded that “Researchers have a moral duty to evaluate unproven interventions (for treatment or prevention) in clinical trials that are of the best possible design in the current exceptional circumstances, … in order to establish the safety and efficacy of the interventions or to provide evidence to stop their use.” In our view, there are no barriers, even during an outbreak such as the current one, to carrying out “clinical trials that are of the best possible design”, namely double-masked, randomized, controlled trials of any agent, whether new or repurposed, preferably with a placebo comparator. Kirchoff & Pierson have given good examples of how this has been done with drugs in development in previous epidemics. And others have commented that “large long-term trials that establish standards for drug treatments are so important to the health of the public that every effort, including investigator blinding, should be built into the trial design to produce valid results in studies of the highest reliability and the clearest interpretation”.

Full text at: https://www.cebm.net/covid-19/the-ethics-of-covid-19-treatment-studies-too-many-are-open-too-few-are-double-masked/


Many trials of the 4-aminoquinolines are currently being conducted globally. Many of them are unmasked, and many of them involve the use of high doses. It is therefore important to establish the benefit to harm balance in high-quality trials. Patients who are given either chloroquine or hydroxychloroquine should not also be given any other medicines that prolong the QT interval. If such combinations are unavoidable, the electrocardiogram should be carefully monitored for evidence of QT interval prolongation. **Rapid Review.**

Full text at: https://www.cebm.net/covid-19/chloroquine-and-hydroxychloroquine/


If the full published data from the RECOVERY trial of dexamethasone in the treatment of hospitalized patients with COVID-19 confirm the results in the preliminary publications, the decision to adopt it in the NHS before publication of the final paper will have been justified. **Rapid Review.**

Full text at: https://www.cebm.net/covid-19/dexamethasone/


In a recent article, we observed an apparent fall in the in-hospital mortality rate since the start of the COVID-19 epidemic in the UK and called for an investigation into which, if any, of several plausible reasons contributed to explaining this. A similar pattern can be observed with regard to intensive care patients. **Statistics.**

Full text at: https://www.cebm.net/covid-19/covid-19-declining-admissions-to-intensive-care-units/

**Cochrane Reviews**


The sensitivity of antibody tests is too low in the first week since symptom onset to have a primary role for the diagnosis of COVID-19, but they may still have a role complementing other testing in individuals presenting later, when RT-PCR tests are negative, or are not done. Antibody tests are likely to have a useful role for detecting previous SARS-CoV-2 infection if used 15 or more days after the onset of symptoms. However, the duration of antibody rises is currently unknown, and we found very little data beyond 35 days post-symptom onset. We are therefore uncertain
about the utility of these tests for seroprevalence surveys for public health management purposes. Concerns about high risk of bias and applicability make it likely that the accuracy of tests when used in clinical care will be lower than reported in the included studies. Sensitivity has mainly been evaluated in hospitalised patients, so it is unclear whether the tests are able to detect lower antibody levels likely seen with milder and asymptomatic COVID-19 disease. The design, execution and reporting of studies of the accuracy of COVID-19 tests requires considerable improvement. Studies must report data on sensitivity disaggregated by time since onset of symptoms. COVID-19-positive cases who are RT-PCR-negative should be included as well as those confirmed RT-PCR, in accordance with the World Health Organization (WHO) and China National Health Commission of the People’s Republic of China (CDC) case definitions. We were only able to obtain data from a small proportion of available tests, and action is needed to ensure that all results of test evaluations are available in the public domain to prevent selective reporting. This is a fast-moving field and we plan ongoing updates of this living systematic review. Systematic Review. Full text at: https://www.cochranelibrary.com/cdsr/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD013652/full

NICE


Royal Colleges

Royal College of Emergency Medicine. The management of adult cardiac arrest patients taken to emergency departments during the covid-19 pandemic. RCEM. June 2020. Online. The purpose of this document is to provide a shared framework for ambulance clinicians and ED senior clinicians to provide the most appropriate care in the most appropriate place for adult patients in cardiac arrest on arrival at an ED. RCEM and NASMeD Position Statement: Full text at: https://www.rcem.ac.uk/docs/RCEM%20Guidance/RCEM_NASMeD_adult_cardiac_arrest_statement_June_2020.pdf

Uncover (University of Edinburgh)

None this issue.

UpToDate

None this issue.

World Health Organisation

None this issue.
Original Research

About Covid-19


Allergies

None this issue.

Anaesthetics

None this issue.

Business as Usual Post Covid-19

See also UK Government Reports.


Cancer and Haematology Services


Cardiology and Cardiothoracic Services


Containment, Transmission and Isolation

See also Diagnosis and Testing


Dermatology


Diagnosis and Testing

Full text at: https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2767065

Full text at: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/jmv.26250

Full text at: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0956566320303110?via%3Dihub

Full text at: https://gh.bmj.com/content/5/6/e002914.long

Full text at: https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0235307

Education and Training

Full text at: https://www.scielo.br/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S1806-83242020000100603&tlng=en

Elderly Care

See also Telemedicine and Technology

Emergency Medicine

See also Royal Colleges

Full text at: https://www.degruyter.com/doi/10.1515/ccim-2020-0593

Full text at: https://emj.bmj.com/content/early/2020/06/24/emermed-2020-209826.long

Endocrine and Diabetes

Full text at: http://dx.doi.org/10.15403/jgld-2618
**Gastroenterology**


Full text at: https://www.jacr.org/article/S1546-1440(20)30641-4/pdf


Full text at: https://www.mdpi.com/2077-0383/9/6/2011/htm

**Head and Neck Services**

See also  Education and Training


Full text at: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1879729620301010?via%3Dihub


Full text at: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7314467/

**Infection Control and PPE**


Full text at: https://aricjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13756-020-00744-3


Full text at: https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/9121799

**Intensive and Critical Care**


Full text at: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/anae.15201


Full text at: https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09546634.2020.1789051


Covid-19 Evidence Update, Issue 14 26th June 2020
Retrospective Observational Study. Click here for abstract.

Full text at: https://www.bmj.com/content/369/bmj.m2446

Learning and Physical Disabilities

None this issue.

Liver and Hepatic Diseases

Full text at: https://www.jgld.ro/jgld/index.php/jgld/article/view/2440

Mental Health and Well-being

See also Telemedicine and Technology

Full text at: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0163834320300694?via%3Dihub

Marshall, L. et al. Emerging evidence on COVID-19’s impact on mental health and health inequalities. Health Foundation, 18th June 2020. [Online]. The unequal impacts of the pandemic may lead to a widening of pre-existing health inequalities, as well as affecting people who have not previously experienced poor mental health. Failing to value and invest in mental health during the pandemic risks storing up significant mental and physical health problems for the future – at great human and economic cost. News.

Full text at: https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2767771


Full text at: https://www.thelancet.com/pdfs/journals/lanpsy/PiIs2215-0366(20)30287-x.pdf

Full text at: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2352013220300508?via%3Dihub
The results of a survey with teachers and school staff into the impact of the coronavirus and the subsequent lockdown on young people’s mental health reveal the significant concerns staff have for the wellbeing of their pupils as we emerge from the pandemic. Survey.

Musculoskeletal Disorders and Rheumatology

Full text at: https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00296-020-04635-z

Neurology and Stroke

See also Mental Health and Well-being

Full text at: https://www.thelancet.com/pdfs/journals/ebiom/PIIS2352-3964(20)30197-3.pdf

Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Full text at: https://www.scielo.br/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S0104-11692020000100606&tlng=en

Full text at: https://www.mdpi.com/2076-0817/9/6/485

Ophthalmology

None this issue.

Paediatric and Neonatal Services

See also Telemedicine and Technology


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

Palliative and End of Life Care


Patient Information


Pathology and Autopsy

Full text at: https://www.mdpi.com/2077-0383/9/7/2026

Pharmacy


Physical Activity, Lifestyle and Nutrition

Full text at: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1002/oby.22946

Post Discharge and Rehabilitation

See also Patient Information

Full text at: https://journals.lww.com/jcrjournal/FullText/2020/07000/Feasibility_and_Efficacy_of_the_Pulmonary.1.aspx

Covid-19 Evidence Update, Issue 14 26th June 2020
Primary Care Practice
None this issue.

Prognosis
Full text at: https://bsd.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13293-020-00304-9

Full text at: https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fmed.2020.00315/full

Racial and Ethnic Disparities
Atlantic Monthly Group. The COVID racial data tracker. Atlantic Monthly. 1st July 2020. [Online]. The COVID Racial Data Tracker is a collaboration between the COVID Tracking Project and the Center for Antiracist Research. Their aim is to gather the most complete race and ethnicity data on COVID-19 in the United States.
Full text at: https://covidtracking.com/race/

Radiology
Full text at: https://www.clinicalradiologyonline.net/article/S0009-9260(20)30225-7/pdf

Full text at: https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1361-6498/aba16a/pdf

Full text at: https://www.radiographyonline.com/article/S1078-8174(20)30098-5/pdf

Renal, Urology and Nephrology
See also Transplantation

Research and Trials
None this issue.

Residential, Specialist and Homeless Care
Housing Learning and Improvement Network. Coronavirus (COVID-19)- supporting residents in retirement housing and extra care housing who experience loneliness – an a-z of examples. Housing-LIN, 25th June 2020. [Online]. How residents in retirement/sheltered and extra care housing are experiencing loneliness and isolation, and the
creative ways in which operators have organised a range of scheme-based and virtual activities to support these residents’ independence, health and wellbeing, and to help keep them connected during the pandemic.


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

None this issue.

**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://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7234684/


Full text at: https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/aop-cambridge-core/content/view/868C4A93C2103244E8169A77430F23CC/S0790966720000531a.pdf/adhd_and_covid19_current_roadblocks_and_future_opportunities.pdf

**Transplantation**

None this issue.

**Trauma and Orthopaedic Services**


Full text at: https://www.sicot-j.org/articles/sicotj/full_html/2020/01/sicotj200069/sicotj200069.html
Treatments for COVID

See also Cancer and Haematology

Full text at: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1876034120305311?via%3Dihub


Full text at: https://linkinghub.elsevier.com/retrieve/pii/S12019712(20)30499-9

Full text at: https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/0954661820305311

Full text at: http://atm.amegroups.com/article/view/43126/html

Full text at: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1550413120303168

Contact the library for full text.


Full text at: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S187140212030223X?via%3Dihub

Full text at: https://academic.oup.com/cid/article/doi/10.1093/cid/ciaa879/5864596

Contact the library for full text.

Full text at: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1550413120303168?via%3Dihub
Vaccines, Antibodies and Immunity


The following sources have been searched for evidence published in the previous week.

American Journal of Medicine
BMJ
BMJ Best Practice
CEBM Oxford
Cochrane Library
Coronavirus Research Database
DynaMed
Google Scholar
HDAS Databases (Medline, Cinahl etc)
JAMA
KnowledgeShare
LIS-Medical
McMasterPlus
Medscape
New England Journal of Medicine
NICE Evidence
NHS Networks
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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