Weekly Evidence Report

Health Technology Assessment Philippines

8 to 14 MAY 2021

Overview

The following report presents summaries of evidence the Department of Health (DOH) - Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Unit reviewed for the period of 8 to 14 May 2021. The HTA Unit reviewed a total of 9 studies for the said period.

Evidence includes 2 studies on Epidemiology; 2 studies on Transmission; 0 studies on Drugs; 1 study on Vaccines, 2 studies on Equipment and Devices; 0 studies on Medical and Surgical Procedures; 0 studies on Traditional Medicine; and 2 studies on Preventive & Promotive Health.

The following report notes that 6 studies have not been peer-reviewed, each highlighted accordingly.

Sections

Evidence on Epidemiology

Local COVID-19 Tracker: https://www.doh.gov.ph/covid19tracker
Local COVID-19 Case Tracker: https://www.doh.gov.ph/covid-19/case-tracker

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
11 May 2021	WHO	Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) External Situation Report	WHO (Situation Report)	• Cases and deaths have been at an all-time high since onset of COVID=19 at 5.5 million cases and 90,000 deaths globally for the week • India comprises 50% of global cases and 30% of global deaths for this week
12 May 2021	ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center	Risk Assessment for International Dissemination of COVID-19 to the ASEAN Region	ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center (Risk Assessment)	• Since the start of the pandemic, 160 million cases and more than 3 million deaths are attributed to COVID-19. • Variant V 1617 which started in India has been detected in the Philippines and in Thailand • An entry ban has been extended to travelers from Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Nepal for Non-thai individuals coming into Thailand

Evidence on Vulnerable Population Epidemiology

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
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Note. Studies that have not been peer-reviewed are highlighted in red.

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Evidence on Transmission

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
9 May 2021	Castiglioni, S, et al	SARS-CoV-2 RNA in urban wastewater samples to monitor the COVID-19 epidemic in Lombardy, Italy (March-June 2020)	MedRxiv (XXX)	• xxx
8 May 2021	Song, Y, et al	COVID-19 cases from the first local outbreak of SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7 variant in CHina presented more serious clinical features: a comparative cohort study	MedRxiv (Comparative cohort Study)	• 74 admitted COVID-19 cases in the Ditan hospital from December 25, 2020 to January 17, 2021 were included • Clinical features found for this variant includes a more serious symptomatology such as inflammatory response, pneumonia, and a possible higher viral load and could be seen as having a higher pathogenicity

Evidence on Drugs

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
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Evidence on Vaccines

Link to HTA Living Database: https://bit.ly/3gOOSmG
LAST UPDATE: 19 MARCH 2021

NYT Coronavirus Vaccine Tracker:
https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/science/coronavirus-vaccine-tracker.html

Bloomberg Vaccine Tracker:
https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/covid-vaccine-tracker-global-distribution/

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine Vaccine Trial Mapper and Tracker:
https://vac-lshtm.shinyapps.io/ncov_vaccine_landscape/

ACIP Files:
https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1v-jd66qIlxnUkfzXWKqiD0mkVvqy_VvJ

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
12 May 2021	ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center	Risk Assessment for International Dissemination of COVID-19 to the ASEAN Region	ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center (Risk Assessment)	• Brazil halted the use of Astrazeneca on pregnant women after a case of stroke was noted in a 23 weeks pregnant lady • Chulalongkorn University proved the efficacy of Sinovac and Astrazeneca vaccines

Evidence on Equipment & Devices

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
9 May 2021	Rozanski, M, et al	RT-qPCR-based tests for SARS-CoV-2 detection in pooled saliva samples for massive population screening to monitor epidemics	MedRxiv (Experimental Study)	• The use of RT-PCR as a screening tool was tested with pooled testing • Out of 1,475 individuals pooled in 374 pools of 4, a 0.8% false positive and no false negative results
9 May 2021	Borley, D, et al	A prospective diagnostic study to measure the accuracy of detection of SARS-CoV-2 Variants of Concern (VOC) utilising a novel RT-PCR GENotyping algorithm in an In Silico Evaluation (VOC-GENIE)	MedRxiv (In Silico Trial)	• A data set of 640,482 genotyping assay were investigated using an in silico trial design • The single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) were able to identify four variants of concern with E484K and L452R escape mutations

Note. Studies that have not been peer-reviewed are highlighted in red.

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Evidence on Traditional Medicine

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
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Evidence on Preventive & Promotive Health

Evidence on Screening

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
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Evidence on Personal Measures

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Evidence on Community Measures

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
9 May 2021	Mave, V, et al	Impact of National and Regional Lockdowns on Growth of COVID-19 Cases in COVID-Hotspot City of Pune in Western India: A Real-World Data Analysis	MedRxiv (Real World Study)	• A public health surveillance program collected data from February 1 to September 15, 2020 • The COVID-19 disease rate was found to be 267.0 (95% CI: 265.3 to 268.8) • Lockdowns were found to slow down the growth of COVID-19 cases in population dense urban India

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
9 May 2021	Pung, R, et al	Relative role of border restrictions, case finding and contact tracing in controlling SARS-CoV-2 in the presence of undetected transmission	MedRxiv (Study)	• Data from notified local COVID-19 cases with known and unknown sources of infections in Singapore through a transmission model were used to reconstruct incidence of missed infections • 89% (95% CI 75 to 99%) of infections were contact traced byt 12.5% (95% CI 2 to 69%) were due to missed infectors • The study shoed that a case finding and contact tracing program that identifies at least half and 20% of missed and notified cases respectively, a reduction of about 14% to 20% in reproduction number may be noted when contact tracing is 80% effective