

# Weekly Evidence Report

Health Technology Assessment Philippines



15 to 21 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 15 to 21 May 2021. The HTA Unit reviewed a total of 10 studies for the said period.

Evidence includes 2 studies on Epidemiology; 0 studies on Transmission; 1 study on Drugs; 1 study on Vaccines, 1 study on Equipment and Devices; 2 studies on Medical and Surgical Procedures; 0 studies on Traditional Medicine; and 3 studies on Preventive & Promotive Health.

The following report notes that 1 study has not been peer-reviewed, each highlighted accordingly.



## Sections

Epidemiology

Transmission

Drugs

Vaccines

Equipment & Devices

Medical & Surgical Procedures

Traditional Medicine

Preventive & Promotive Health

## 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
18 May 2021	WHO	<a href="#">Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) External Situation Report</a>	WHO (Situation Report)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4.8 million cases and 86,000 deaths have been reported which are at the highest levels since the start of the pandemic.</li> <li>However, a 12% and 5% decrease overall respectively were noted</li> <li>In the Western Pacific Region, a 4% increase in both cases and deaths have been noted</li> </ul>
14 May 2021	ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center	<a href="#">Risk Assessment for International Dissemination of COVID-19 to the ASEAN Region</a>	ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center (Risk Assessment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Singapore has been noting new community cases. Testing has been noted to be heightened due to this.</li> <li>The travel bubble between Singapore and Hong Kong will be reviewed in lieu of the rise in cases</li> <li>The Royal Brunei Airlines joins in the IATA initiative to use a Travel Pass app for checking COVID testing and other documents</li> </ul>

## Evidence on Vulnerable Population Epidemiology

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
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## Evidence on Transmission

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
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## Evidence on Drugs

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
17 May 2021	Chen, CX, et al	<a href="#">Systematic review and meta-analysis of tocilizumab in persons with coronavirus disease-2019 (COVID-19)</a>	Leukemia (Systematic Review and Meta-analysis)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>32 studies with 11,487 participants were included in the review.</li> <li>Tocilizumab was seen to decrease the risk of death (RR=0.74 [95% CI: 0.59-0.93]) but not for the chance of ICU admissions (RR= 1.40 [95% CI: 0.64-3.06]), invasive mechanical ventilation (RR= 0.83 [95% CI: 0.57-1.22]), or secondary infections (RR=1.30 [95% CI: 0.97-1.74])</li> </ul>

## Evidence on Vaccines

### 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/](https://vac-lshtm.shinyapps.io/ncov_vaccine_landscape/)

### ACIP Files:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1v-jd66qllxnUkfzXWKqiD0mkVvqy\\_VvJ](https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1v-jd66qllxnUkfzXWKqiD0mkVvqy_VvJ)

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
19 May 2021	Eshun-Wilson, I, et al	<a href="#">Strategies that make vaccination easy and promote autonomy could increase COVID-19 vaccination in those who remain hesitant</a>	MedRxiv (Qualitative Study)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A survey was conducted among 2,895 people in the US between March 15 and 22, 2021</li> <li>On average, ease in terms of the number of vaccines given and the frequency of visits needed for vaccination has been a priority</li> <li>Control aversion was also noted to increase vaccine hesitancy especially among the young African American/Black or Republicans.</li> <li>Providing ease and autonomy in the masses was found to be elements that could decrease vaccine hesitancy</li> </ul>

## Evidence on Medical and Surgical Procedures

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
18 May 2021	Hampson, G, et al	<a href="#">Diagnosis and Management of Osteoporosis During COVID-19: Systematic Review and Practical Guidance</a>	Calcified Tissue International (Systematic Review)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>36 studies were included in the review</li> <li>New recommendations have been made to continue the monitoring and delivery of healthcare for osteoporosis patients such as remote consultations, telehealth medicine, and better coordination between primary and secondary care</li> </ul>
18 May 2021	Dhar, D., et al	<a href="#">Systemic inflammatory syndrome in COVID-19 SISCOV study: systematic review and meta-analysis</a>	Pediatric Research (Systematic Review and Meta-analysis)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18 studies with 833 publications were included</li> <li>The following findings were noted: higher gastrointestinal symptoms (84.3%), myocarditis (61.8%), left ventricular dysfunction (45.0%), pericardial symptoms (31.0%), and neurological symptoms (22.9%)</li> <li>A sensitivity of 65.8% compared to RT-PCR testing at 36.4% were noted as well</li> <li>Early diagnosis and treatment is crucial once the constellation of symptoms have been noted</li> </ul>

## Evidence on Equipment & Devices

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
17 May 2021	Clark, M.	<a href="#">At-Home Testing for Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2</a>	CADTH (Horizon Scan)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certain at home test kits have been given authorization in Canada and the US. However, Antigen test kits have not been as frequently utilized as other tests</li> <li>• Human error still poses as the main concern with testing done outside a laboratory</li> <li>• Providing the people with more frequent test results despite lower sensitivity may better the behavior of people in such that a compliance</li> </ul>

## 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

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
14 May 2021	HSE	<a href="#">Do men between the ages of 18-65 years of age with depression experience difficulty accessing mental health services and support?</a>	HSE (Evidence Summary)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gender roles and the conformity with a preconceived notion of masculinity is a barrier to men with depression for accessing mental health services and support</li> <li>General practitioners may help in addressing and acknowledging experiences of depression and anxiety.</li> </ul>
15 May 2021	Campbell, H, & Wood, AC	<a href="#">Challenges in Feeding Children Posed by the COVID-19 Pandemic: a Systematic Review of Changes in Dietary Intake Combined with a Dietitian's Perspective</a>	Current Nutrition Reports (Systematic Review)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>38 studies were included in this review</li> <li>The studies were described as low quality wherein children were not fully represented</li> <li>No conclusions were made from the included studies</li> </ul>

## Evidence on Community Measures

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
14 May 2021	NIPH	<a href="#">Scandinavian research about the consequences of COVID-19 on welfare, equality, social conditions, and quality of life: systematic literature search with categorisation</a>	NIPH (Systematic Literature Search)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>81 studies were included in the systematic search.</li> <li>59% are cross-sectional studies and 25% involved the youth with a varied array of topics</li> <li>None have been reviewed in full text but the sources have been categorized by type based on study abstracts</li> </ul>