

# Weekly Evidence Report



Health Technology Assessment Philippines

9-15 JANUARY 2021

## Overview

The following report presents summaries of evidence the Department of Health (DOH) - Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Unit reviewed for the period of 9 to 15 January 2021. The HTA Unit reviewed a total of 11 studies for the said period.

Evidence includes 2 studies on Epidemiology; 1 study on Transmission; 1 study on Drugs; 1 study on Vaccines, 1 study on Equipment and Devices; 1 study on Medical and Surgical Procedures; 0 studies on Traditional Medicine; and 4 studies on Preventive & Promotive Health.

The following report notes that 0 studies have not been peer-reviewed, each highlighted accordingly.



## Sections

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Epidemiology

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Transmission

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Drugs

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Vaccines

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Equipment & Devices

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Medical & Surgical Procedures

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Traditional Medicine

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Preventive & Promotive Health

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## 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 Jan 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>90.3 million cases and .93 million deaths due to COVID-19</li> <li>A WHO and China joint research will begin on January 14</li> <li>Philippine government secures 30 million doses of Novovax and aims to secure 148 million more doses from other companies</li> <li>A periodic commuting arrangement between Malaysian citizens who are Singapore permanent residents is in place in coordination with their SafeTravel site</li> <li>Indonesia extends its travel ban on foreign nationals for 2 weeks</li> <li>Vietnam and Thailand have implemented more stringent protocols for travel</li> </ul>
12 Jan 2021	WHO Global	<a href="#">Weekly epidemiological update-12 January 2021</a>	WHO (Epidemiologic Report)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An uptrend in all regions were noted likely due to the year-end holiday period.</li> <li>Since initial detection last 14th December, 50 countries and areas have already detected the VOC 202012/01. Studies show higher transmissibility of this variant.</li> <li>Variant 501Y.V2 have now been detected in 20 countries and areas</li> <li>Variant B.1.1.28 first noted in Japan last January 9 has been studied to have 12 mutations to the spike protein</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
12 Jan 2021	Motoko, R. & Makiko, I.	<a href="#">Covid-19: US to Require Negative Virus Tests From International Air</a>	New York Times (News Article)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Four travelers coming from Brazil were found by the health ministry to have tested positive for COVID-19 with a different variant but with similarities to those detected in South Africa and UK.</li> <li>Mr. Shimoaraiso, an official with the office for COVID-19 Preparedness and Response, said that they are not sure if the variant is more infectious but has already been reported to WHO.</li> </ul>

## Evidence on Drugs

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
12 Jan 2021	CADTH	<a href="#">Bamlanivimab (LY-CoV555) in the Treatment of Outpatients With COVID-19: A Critical Appraisal of an Interim Analysis of the BLAZE-1 Trial</a>	CADTH (Health Technology Review)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BLAZE-II is a phase II, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multi-center trial</li> <li>The drug is given as a one dose IV infusion over one hour with patient monitoring</li> <li>Despite the study suggesting potential benefits, more robust, published, peer-reviewed evidence is needed for clear recommendations about its potential role for early treatment in mild or moderate cases</li> </ul>

## Evidence on Vaccines

Link to HTA Living Database: <https://bit.ly/3gOOSmG>  
 LAST UPDATE: 29 December 2020

### 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-id66qllxnUkfzXWKqiD0mkVvqy\\_VvJ](https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1v-id66qllxnUkfzXWKqiD0mkVvqy_VvJ)

### ASEAN Vaccine Tracker:

<https://www.aseanbriefing.com/news/covid-19-vaccine-roll-outs-in-asean-asia-live-updates-by-county/>

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
12 Jan 2021	Feiring, E. et.al.	<a href="#">Advice on priority groups for coronavirus vaccination in Norway</a>	FHI (Guidance Document)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FHI releases the english version of their previously published guidance for vaccination prioritisation</li> <li>A dynamic approach is in place depending on the epidemiological situation in the country</li> </ul>

## Evidence on Equipment & Devices

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
12 Jan 2021	Bastos, M.L., et.al.	<a href="#">The Sensitivity and Costs of Testing for SARS-CoV-2 Infection with Saliva versus Nasopharyngeal Swabs</a>	Annals of Internal Medicine (Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>37 studies with 7,332 paired samples were included</li> <li>When compared to a positive reference standard, saliva testing showed 3.4% (95%CI, 9.9 to 3.1%) points lower than nasopharyngeal swabs</li> <li>Among previously confirmed patients, saliva's sensitivity were higher at 1.5% points more (CI, 7.3 to 10.3%) and 7.3% lower (CI, 14.7 to 0.8%) for previously diagnosed COVID-19 cases</li> </ul>

## Evidence on Medical & Surgical Procedures

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
7 Jan 2021	Liu, et.al.	<a href="#">Development and Validation of a Risk Score Using Complete Blood Count to Predict In-hospital Mortality in COVID-19 Patients</a>	Cell (Retrospective Cohort)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13,138 in patients in Hubei, China and Milan Italy were included in the study</li> <li>The PAWNN Score uses five risk factors namely platelet counts, age, white count, neutrophil count, and neutrophil/lymphocyte ratio showing good accuracy with AUROCs 0.92-0.93</li> <li>The PAWNN score may be used in prioritizing medical treatment for admitted COVID-19 patients especially in areas with limited resources or access</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
10 Jan 2021	Public Health England	<a href="#">Asymptomatic testing to be rolled out across the country starting this week</a>	PHE (Press Release)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Target testing of people who cannot work from home is advised</li> <li>317 local authorities are covered in the community testing program with 107 having already started</li> <li>Targeted, regular community testing using lateral flow tests have been seen to be highly effective</li> </ul>

## Evidence on Personal Measures

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
27 Mar 2020  Updated 13 Jan 2021	Public Health England	<a href="#">Coronavirus (COVID-19): advice for people in England with animals</a>	PHE (Guidance document)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updates were added in line with the recent lockdown in place.</li> <li>• Staying at home is also recommended for people with pets, lest walking the dog where the people are advised to go on their own, with one person in his/her bubble, or when at a public space, to be with just one person from another household. All of which following a 2 meter distancing</li> </ul>

## Evidence on Community Measures

Date	Author/s	Title	Journal/ Article Type	Summary
Updated 13 Jan 2021	Public Health England	<a href="#">Coronavirus (COVID-19): safer transport guidance for operators</a>	PHE (Guidance document)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With the implemented lockdown last 6 January, clinically vulnerable individuals are advised to stay at home with limited outdoor exposure</li> <li>• Proper planning in part of employers and employees is needed to ensure only essential transport workers go to work</li> </ul>
6 Jan 2021	Norwegian Institute of Public Health	<a href="#">The effects of covid-19 on children: A rapid review</a>	NIPH (Rapid Review)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 93 studies from OECD-countries were included in the review. Six main themes were used: family relationships, social health, mental health, use of health-and social services, learning and education outcomes, and nutrition, sleep, and physical activity</li> <li>• Patterns were noted with the first being a decreased number of cases of violence against children. Another would be an improvement and deteriorations in areas of their lives.</li> </ul>