Welcome to the weekly Infection Current Awareness Update (ICAU), produced by PHE Knowledge and Library Services. The purpose of this update is to provide you with the latest, best evidence about infection, to help you make informed decisions.

Please note: PHE KLS has set up a separate COVID-19 Daily Alert of latest research. If you would like to receive this, please email libraries@phe.gov.uk. In addition to this, a page of resources about the coronavirus is available here.

If you have any queries, please contact us at libraries@phe.gov.uk, and if you would like to request a literature search, please use the Knowledge and Library Services Enquiries Portal (PHE staff only).

Please note that not all the articles and resources referred to in this alert are freely available. Some articles may require an Athens username and password, and for PHE and NHS staff, these can be obtained here. If you do not work for PHE or the NHS, you may want to approach your local health library service to discuss how you may have access to library services.

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Infection-related guidance

British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy

Superbugs & game theory: Rates of resistance will continue to increase unless we change the "payoff" for prescribers
23 Jun 2020
The post Superbugs & game theory: Rates of resistance will continue to increase unless we change the "payoff" for prescribers appeared first on British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy.

Centres for Disease Control and Prevention: HIV guidelines

Dear Colleague: HIV Self Testing Guidance
23 Jun 2020
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) encourages people at risk for HIV infection to get tested in ways that are in compliance with stay-at-home orders and social distancing practices, including self-testing.

Infectious Diseases Society of America

A new commentary in CID discusses #asymptomatic #SARS-CoV2 infection and transmission, measurements of #COVID19 mortality, and the implications for reopening schools.
bit.ly/2VivEwd #ClinInfectDis #IDSAJournals
28 Jun 2020
IDSA on Twitter: “A new commentary in CID discusses #asymptomatic #SARS-CoV2 infection and “The symptoms underestimate the severity of the disease.” A new study reveals that 57% of people with “#asymptomatic” #COVID19 infection show signs of lung inflammation.
@NatureMedicine n.pr/2AYmQoq
24 Jun 2020
that 57% of people with “#asymptomatic” #COVID19 infection show signs of lung inflammation.

Infection-related journals

American Journal of Infection Control

Design and Evaluation of a Portable Negative Pressure Hood with HEPA Filtration to Protect Health Care Workers Treating Patients with Transmissible Respiratory Infections
27 Jun 2020
To mitigate potential exposure of healthcare workers (HCWs) to SARS-CoV-2 via aerosol routes, we have developed a portable hood which not only creates a barrier between HCW and patient, but also utilizes negative pressure with filtration of aerosols by a HEPA filter.

An agent-based modeling approach to estimate pathogen exposure risks from wheelchairs
27 Jun 2020
The role of indirect exposures through fomite contacts in the transmission of healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) has been widely recognized for many HAI-causing pathogens, such as methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus spp. (VRE), norovirus, Clostridioides difficile (C. difficile), and Acinetobacter spp

Impact of air-conditioner outlet layout on the upward airflow induced by forced air warming in operating rooms
27 Jun 2020
Actively warming patients during surgery, by methods such as forced air warming (FAW), provides clear benefits.1, 2 On the other hand, FAW generates upward airflow in the head area, which potentially causes contamination. We have previously reported that the presence of downward laminar airflow (LAF) completely counteracts this, which enables FAW to be used with negligible contamination

An Evaluation of Cleaning Practices at a Teaching Hospital
26 Jun 2020
The COVID-19 outbreak has highlighted the role of hospital-acquired infections in spreading epidemics. Adequately cleaning surfaces in patient rooms is an essential part of this fight to reduce the spread. Traditional audits, however, are insufficient

Characteristics of COVID-19 Near China’s Epidemic Center
26 Jun 2020
Background: This study described and analyzed the age, gender, infection sources, and timing characteristics of the 416 confirmed cases in two cities near the center of China’s COVID-19 outbreak. Methods: This study used publicly available data to examine gender, age, source of infection, date returned from Hubei, date of disease onset, date of first medical visit, date of final diagnosis, and

Safety briefing and visual design key to protecting health care workers during the COVID-19 pandemic
26 Jun 2020
The COVID-19 pandemic has led to widespread changes as countries echo the call for millions to stay at home in an attempt to limit transmission of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that is responsible for the COVID-19 infection. Healthcare personnel (HCP), on the other hand, continue to serve on the front line

Impact of antibiotic prescription on the resistance of Klebsiella pneumoniae at a tertiary hospital in China, 2012-2019
26 Jun 2020
Klebsiella pneumoniae (KP), a member of the family Enterobacteriaceae, is a major pathogen causing a variety of infections, such as bacteremia, intra-abdominal infections, pneumonia, and urinary tract infections.1 In China, the annual isolation rate of KP was steadily increasing, from 14% in 2005 to 19

Containing COVID-19 outside the isolation ward: the impact of an infection control bundle on environmental contamination and transmission in a cohorted general ward
26 Jun 2020
In the current COVID-19 pandemic, healthcare-associated transmission has been a major concern, with almost one-third of patients comprising healthcare workers (HCWs) and hospitalised inpatients. 1 To reduce healthcare-associated spread, standard recommendation is that single-person rooms with dedicated toilets be used to isolate suspected COVID-19 cases, and negative-pressure

COVID-19 Fatalities, Latitude, Sunlight, and Vitamin D
26 Jun 2020
As the COVID-19 pandemic spread, death rates reported for over 200 countries and territories on the “worldometer” website appeared to be higher in countries farther from the equator compared with those closer to the equator.1 A striking example of this appeared in the May 11, 2020 data between Ireland and Singapore, whose population size was similar (4.9 million vs. 5

N95 Reprocessing by Low Temperature Sterilization with 59% Vaporized Hydrogen Peroxide during the 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic
26 Jun 2020
As the COVID-19 pandemic spread, death rates reported for over 200 countries and territories on the “worldometer” website appeared to be higher in countries farther from the equator compared with those closer to the equator.1 A striking example of this appeared in the May 11, 2020 data between Ireland and Singapore, whose population size was similar (4.9 million vs. 5
Response to the COVID-19 pandemic by hospital systems has been strained by severe shortages in personal protective equipment (PPE), particularly N95 respirators. Recently, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention endorsed decontamination strategies to prolong the lifespan of single use respirators.

Could the COVID-19 pandemic aggravate antimicrobial resistance?

The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic reached Latin America later than other continents. The first case recorded in Brazil was on Feb 25th, 2020, and four months later (June 20th, 2020) there have been 1,032,913 confirmed cases including 48,954 deaths.

Preparing your healthcare facility for the new fungus among us: An infection preventionist's guide to Candida auris

In June 2016, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued an alert regarding an emerging multidrug-resistant yeast, Candida auris, which had been implicated in outbreaks of invasive healthcare-associated infections in several countries. This new organism can be challenging to identify, resistant to multiple classes of antifungal agents, and associated with high mortality.

Bacterial and fungal colonization of the respiratory tract in COVID-19 patients should not be neglected

Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) primarily affects the respiratory system, although the involvement of other organs, such as heart, kidney and bowel, has also been observed.

Active Surveillance for Acute Respiratory Infections among Pediatric Long-Term Care Facility Staff

Residential pediatric long-term care facilities (pLTCF) care for medically fragile children with complex comorbid conditions. Acute respiratory infections (ARIs) are the most common healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) among pLTCF residents and are associated with increased morbidity, cost, and acute care hospitalizations.
AbstractBackground Research suggests that HIV-positive individuals with an STI may be at increased risk of passing HIV to someone else through unprotected sex. The primary aim of the analysis is to identify the high-risk geographic areas of transmission of coinfections and factors that may be associated with poor outcomes of viral suppression within these higher risk geographic areas of

The safety of delayed versus immediate antibiotic prescribing for upper respiratory tract infections

28 Jun 2020

AbstractBackground This study aimed to evaluate the clinical safety of delayed antibiotic prescribing for upper respiratory tract infections (URTI), which is recommended in treatment guidelines for less severe cases

Investigating the sex differences in COVID-19: Another step forward, but many unanswered questions

28 Jun 2020

Early Results from SARS-CoV-2 PCR testing of Healthcare Workers at an Academic Medical Center in New York City

28 Jun 2020

Abstract COVID-19 RT-PCR employee-testing was implemented across NYU Langone. Over eight weeks, 14,764 employees were tested: 33% of symptomatic employees, 8% of asymptomatic employees reporting COVID-19 exposure, 3% of employees returning to work were positive. Positivity rates declined over time possibly reflecting the importance of community transmission and efficacy of PPE.

Drug-induced liver injury in a COVID-19 patient: potential interaction of remdesivir with P-glycoprotein inhibitors

28 Jun 2020

Abstract We report a case of a male with COVID-19 who developed acute hepatotoxicity related to remdesivir with probable interaction of P-glycoprotein (P-gp) inhibitors. Until further details upon this interaction become available, we recommend physicians to be cautious with the prescription of P-gp inhibitors in patients receiving remdesivir therapy.

A Care Bundle Intervention to Prevent Surgical Site Infections after a Craniotomy

28 Jun 2020

Abstract Background Although surgical site infections after a craniotomy (SSI-CRAN) are a serious problem involving significant morbidity and costs, information on their prevention is scarce. We aimed to assess whether the implementation of a care bundle was effective in preventing SSI-CRANs

Covid-19 and People with HIV Infection: Outcomes for Hospitalized Patients in New York City

28 Jun 2020

Abstract Background There have been limited data regarding the clinical impact of COVID-19 disease on people with HIV (PWH). In this study we compared outcomes for PWH with COVID-19 disease to a matched comparison group. Design We identified 88 PWH hospitalized with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 in our hospital system in New York between March 12 and April 23, 2020

COVID-19 in Immunocompromised Hosts: What We Know So Far

27 Jun 2020

Abstract The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic caused by SARS coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) has caused significant morbidity and mortality for patients and stressed healthcare systems worldwide

Polymerase Chain Reaction Testing of Stool: Can it Improve Antibiotic Prescription Practices for Diarrhoea?

27 Jun 2020

PCR stools diarrhoea antibiotic treatment

Etiology of diarrhea requiring hospitalization in Bangladesh by quantitative PCR, 2014-2018

27 Jun 2020

Abstract Background Diarrhea remains a major public health problem and characterization of etiology is needed to prioritize interventions. However, most data are from single-site studies of children. We tested
samples from participants of any age from 11 geographically diverse hospitals in Bangladesh to describe pathogen-specific burdens of diarrhea

Reply to Li, Hu, and Song
26 Jun 2020

High-dose but not low-dose corticosteroids potentially delay viral shedding of patients with COVID-19
26 Jun 2020

Identifying priorities for testing and treatment of latent tuberculosis infection in the United States
26 Jun 2020

Mycobacterium tuberculosisTB eliminationpreventive therapytest and treat

Identification, management and outcomes of combination antiretroviral treatment failure in adolescents with perinatal HIV infection in Asia
26 Jun 2020

AbstractBackgroundCombination antiretroviral therapy (cART) failure is a major threat to HIV programs, with implications for individual- and population-level outcomes. Adolescents with perinatally-acquired HIV infection (PHIVA) should be a focus for treatment failure given their poorer outcomes compared to children and adults

Frequency and Predictors of Suboptimal Prescribing Among a Cohort of Older Male Residents with Urinary Tract Infection
26 Jun 2020

AbstractBACKGROUNDUnnecessary antibiotic treatment of suspected urinary tract infection (UTI) is common in long-term care facilities (LTCFs). However, less is known about the extent of suboptimal treatment, in terms of antibiotic choice, dose, and duration, after the decision to use antibiotics has been made

Epidemiology of Invasive Haemophilus influenzae Serotype a Disease—United States, 2008–2017
26 Jun 2020

AbstractBackgroundHaemophilus influenzae serotype a (Hia) can cause invasive disease similar to serotype b; no Hia vaccine is available. We describe the epidemiology of invasive Hia disease in the United States overall and specifically in Alaska during 2008–2017

Social media-based secondary distribution of HIV/syphilis self-testing among Chinese men who have sex with men
26 Jun 2020

AbstractBackgroundSocial media and secondary distribution (distributing self-testing kits by indexes through their networks) both show strong promise to improve HI V self-testing uptake. We assessed an implementation program in Zhuhai, China, which focused on the secondary distribution of HIV/syphilis self-test kits among men who have sex with men (MSM) via social media

Invasive Haemophilus influenzae serotype a disease in the Hib conjugate vaccine era: where are we going?
26 Jun 2020

Haemophilus influenzae serotype ainvasive diseaseepidemiology

Reply to Fernandez Cruz
26 Jun 2020

Microbiota-associated risk factors for C. difficile acquisition in hospitalized patients: A prospective, multicentric study
26 Jun 2020

AbstractBackgroundAsymptomatic C. difficile colonization is believed to predispose to subsequent C. difficile infection (CDI). While emerging insights into the role of the commensal microbiota in mediating colonization resistance against C. difficile have associated CDI with specific microbial components, corresponding prospectively collected data on colonization with C Xpert MTB/RIF-detected Rifampicin Resistance is a Sub-Optimal Surrogate for Multidrug Resistant Tuberculosis in Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo: Diagnostic and Clinical Implications
26 Jun 2020
Abstract BACKGROUND Rifampicin (RIF) resistance is highly correlated with isoniazid (INH) resistance and used as proxy for multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB). Using MTBDRplus as a comparator, we evaluated the predictive value of Xpert® MTB/RIF (Xpert) detected RIF resistance for MDR-TB in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Incidence, etiology, and severity of acute gastroenteritis among prospectively enrolled patients in 4 Veterans Affairs hospitals and outpatient centers, 2016–18

Abstract Background Acute gastroenteritis (AGE) burden, etiology, and severity in adults is not well-characterized. We implemented a multisite AGE surveillance platform in 4 Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (Atlanta, Bronx, Houston and Los Angeles), collectively serving >320,000 patients annually.

Estimation of SARS-CoV-2 infection fatality rate by real-time antibody screening of blood donors

Abstract Background The pandemic due to severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) has tremendous consequences for our societies. Knowledge of the seroprevalence of SARS-CoV-2 is needed to accurately monitor the spread of the epidemic and to calculate the infection fatality rate (IFR).

Asymptomatic transmission and the infection fatality risk for COVID-19: Implications for school reopening

Abstract Asymptomatic infection occurs for numerous respiratory viral diseases, including influenza and COVID-19. We seek to clarify confusion in three areas: age-specific risks of transmission and/or disease; various definitions for the COVID-19 “mortality rate”, each useful for specific purposes; and implications for student return strategies from pre-school through university settings.

Novel coronavirus 2019 transmission risk in educational settings

Abstract Transmission risk of SARS-CoV-2 in schools is unknown. Our investigations especially in pre-schools could not detect SARS-CoV-2 transmission despite screening of symptomatic and asymptomatic children. The data suggests that children are not the primary drivers of SARS-CoV-2 transmission in schools and could help inform exit strategies for lifting of lockdowns.

Can social media-based self-testing be a new paradigm for HIV testing in China?

HIV self-testingsocial mediaHIV surveillancecommunity-based organisation

Sensitivity of nasopharyngeal swabs and saliva for the detection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)

Abstract We enrolled 91 consecutive in-patients with COVID-19 at six hospitals in Toronto, Canada, and tested one nasopharyngeal swab/saliva sample pair from each patient using real-time reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction for SARS-CoV-2. Sensitivity was 89% for nasopharyngeal swabs and 72% for saliva (p=0.000001).

Antibacterial R&D at a crossroads: We’ve pushed as hard as we can … now we need to start pulling!

Understanding Early and Late Endpoints in Registrational Trials of Community-acquired Bacterial Pneumonia

Community-acquired Bacterial Pneumonia (CABP)Acute Bacterial Skin and Skin Structure Infection (ABSSSI)U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)antibiotic clinical developmentclinical trial endpointsnon-inferiority trials

Unbiased metagenomics – a new tool for detecting early Lyme disease?

Persistent and emerging pneumococcal carriage serotypes in a rural Gambian community after ten years of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine pressure
Abstract

Background

The continuing impact of pneumococcal conjugate vaccines (PCVs) in regions with high pneumococcal transmission is threatened by the persistence of vaccine serotypes (VT) and the emergence of non-vaccine serotypes (NVT). Concordance of early and late endpoints for community-acquired bacterial pneumonia trials

25 Jun 2020

Abstract

While there are ongoing regulatory convergence efforts, differences remain in primary endpoints recommended for community-acquired bacterial pneumonia (CABP) trials. The US Food and Drug Administration recommends assessing CABP symptom resolution at an early time point (3-5 days after randomization).

THE RIGHT TIME FOR STEROIDS IN COVID-19

25 Jun 2020

Time to revise our tuberculosis infection-latency-disease model in high-burden settings

25 Jun 2020

Model-Based Cost-Effectiveness of State-level Latent Tuberculosis Interventions in California, Florida, New York and Texas

25 Jun 2020

Abstract

Targeted testing and treatment (TTT) for latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI) is a recommended strategy to accelerate TB reductions and further tuberculosis elimination in the United States (US). Evidence on cost-effectiveness of TTT for key populations can help advance this goal.

Detection of Borrelia burgdorferi Cell-free DNA in Human Plasma Samples for Improved Diagnosis of Early Lyme Borreliosis

25 Jun 2020

Abstract

Laboratory confirmation of early Lyme borreliosis (LB) is challenging. Serology is insensitive during the first days to weeks of infection, and blood PCR offers similarly poor performance. Here, we demonstrate that detection of Borrelia burgdorferi (B.b.) cell-free DNA (cfDNA) in plasma can improve diagnosis of early LB.

Methods

B.b.


25 Jun 2020

Abstract

We present a longitudinal analysis of investigational new drug applications (INDs) for new, systemic antibacterial drugs under active development between 1980 and 2019, evaluating the characteristics of these investigational drugs and the outcomes of these drug development programs.

Safety and efficacy of 48 and 96 weeks of alendronate in children and adolescents with perinatal HIV infection and low bone mineral density for age

25 Jun 2020

Abstract

No safety concerns were identified in a randomized, crossover study of alendronate/placebo in youth with perinatal HIV-infection and low bone mineral density (BMD). BMD improved with 48 weeks of alendronate and continued to improve with an additional 48 weeks of therapy. Gains were largely maintained 48 weeks after stopping alendronate.

To The Editor

24 Jun 2020

Cefazolin shortages in the developing world: The same, but different too

24 Jun 2020

Seasonal influenza vaccination during pregnancy and the risk of major congenital malformations in live-born infants: A 2010-2016 historical cohort study

23 Jun 2020

Abstract

Available evidence indicates that seasonal inactivated influenza vaccination during pregnancy protects both the mother and her newborn, and is safe. Nevertheless, ongoing safety assessments are important in sustaining vaccine uptake. Few studies have explored safety in relation to major congenital malformations, particularly in the first trimester when most organogenesis occurs.

Fecal Microbiota Transplant: keep calm and carry on, learning from experience

23 Jun 2020
Clinical Presentation and Outcomes of Pregnant Women with COVID-19: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis
23 Jun 2020
Abstract
Introduction
Descriptions of coronavirus disease-2019 (COVID-19) have focused on the non-pregnant adult population. This study aims to describe the clinical characteristics and perinatal outcomes of COVID-19 in pregnancy.
Methods
We searched databases from December 2019 to April 30th, 2020
The effect of Saccharomyces boulardii primary prevention on risk of Hospital Onset Clostridioides difficile infection in hospitalized patients administered antibiotics frequently associated with Clostridioides difficile infection
23 Jun 2020
Abstract
BACKGROUND
Hospital Onset Clostridioides difficile infection (HO-CDI) is a costly problem leading to readmissions, morbidity and mortality. We evaluated the effect of a single probiotic strain, Saccharomyces boulardii, at a standardized dose on the risk of HO-CDI within hospitalized patients administered antibiotics frequently associated with HO-CDI
Compassionate Use of Tocilizumab for Treatment of SARS-CoV-2 Pneumonia
23 Jun 2020
Abstract
Background
Preliminary data from SARS-CoV-2 pneumonia patients indicate that a cytokine storm may increase morbidity and mortality. Tocilizumab (anti-IL-6R) is FDA-approved for treatment of cytokine storm associated with chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy. Here we examined compassionate use of tocilizumab in patients with SARS-CoV-2 pneumonia
Extending Timing of Immunization Against Pertussis During Pregnancy and Protection of Premature Infants from Whooping Cough Disease
22 Jun 2020
Pertussis
Pregnancy
Premature infants
Initiation of Antiretroviral Therapy in the Hospital is Associated with Linkage to HIV Care for Persons Living with HIV and Substance Use
22 Jun 2020
Abstract
BACKGROUND
Studies have demonstrated benefits of ART initiation on the day of HIV testing or at first clinical visit, regardless of CD4 count. The hospital setting is under-studied for immediate ART initiation.
METHODS
SCTN0049, a linkage to care randomized clinical trial, enrolled 801 persons living with HIV (PLWH) and substance use disorder (SUD) from 11 hospitals across the U.S
Apparent intracellular Helicobacter pylori detected by immunohistochemistry - the missing link in eradication failure
22 Jun 2020
Abstract
Background
Helicobacter (H.) pylori is primarily an extracellularly living bacterium. However, seemingly intracellular occurrence can often be detected by immunohistochemical stains. Considering antimicrobial resistance, we investigated the impact of the apparent intracellular H. pylori (aHp) on treatment failure of first-line triple therapies.
Methods
Gastric biopsies of 814 H. pylori-positive patients were examined for the presence of apparent intracellular bacteria by immunohistochemistry.
A genotypical study in Benin comparing the carriage of P. falciparum infections before pregnancy and in the early pregnancy: story of a persistent infection
22 Jun 2020
Abstract
Background
Malaria infections in the first trimester of pregnancy are frequent and deleterious for both mother and child health. To investigate if these early infections are newly acquired or already present in the host, we assessed whether parasites detected before pregnancy and those detected in early pregnancy are the same infection.
Prospective Validation of PREDICT and its Impact on the Transesophageal Echocardiography Use in Management of Staphylococcus aureus Bacteremia
22 Jun 2020
Abstract
Background
Infective endocarditis (IE) is the most feared complication of Staphylococcus aureus bacteremia (SAB). Transesophageal echocardiogram (TEE) is generally recommended for all patients with SAB, however, supporting data for this are limited
Urine Tenofovir Levels Measured by a Novel Immunoassay Predict HIV Protection
22 Jun 2020
Abstract

New tools are needed to support PrEP adherence for individuals at risk for HIV, including those that enable provision of real-time feedback. In a large, completed PrEP trial, adequate urine tenofovir levels measured by a novel immunoassay predicted HIV protection and showed good sensitivity and specificity for detectable plasma tenofovir.

The enigma of the HIV epidemic in China
22 Jun 2020
Abstract

Nearly 17 years ago China launched its National HIV/AIDS Response Program, yet the epidemic still is not slowing. New cases and new deaths increase every year—in 2005, 40,711 people living with HIV (PLWH) were diagnosed and 5,729 died whereas in 2019, 148,598 PLWH were diagnosed and 31,522 died. Moreover, the estimated PLWH population in China has risen to >1.25 million.

Impact of extending the timing of maternal pertussis vaccination on hospitalized infant pertussis in England, 2014 - 2018
22 Jun 2020
Abstract

Background In October 2012 a maternal pertussis vaccination program was introduced in England for women between 28 and 32 weeks of pregnancy. In April 2016, the recommended optimal window was extended to 20-32 weeks to improve vaccine coverage and protect preterm infants.

When it’s too trying for trials: a commentary on a different approach for testing a probiotic, Saccharomyces boulardii, to prevent healthcare-associated C. difficile infections
21 Jun 2020

Clostridioides difficile infections Saccharomyces boulardii nosocomial colitis infection control

Risk Factors for Recurrent Staphylococcus aureus Bacteremia
21 Jun 2020
Abstract

Background To understand the clinical, bacterial, and host characteristics associated with recurrent Staphylococcus aureus bacteremia (R-SAB), patients with R-SAB were compared to contemporaneous patients with a single episode of SAB (S-SAB). Methods All SAB isolates underwent spa genotyping. All isolates from R-SAB patients underwent Pulsed-Field Gel Electrophoresis (PFGE).

Clinical features and gut microbiome of asymptomatic Entamoeba histolytica infection
21 Jun 2020
Abstract

Background Entamoeba histolytica infection is a sexually transmitted disease in some developed countries. Asymptomatic infection often occurs and can be a source of transmission; however, limited data are available regarding the pathogenesis of E. histolytica. Methods This is a single center cross-sectional study.

Superiority of a novel Mp1p antigen detection enzyme immunoassay compared to standard BACTEC blood culture in the diagnosis of talaromycosis
21 Jun 2020
Abstract

Background Talaromycosis is an invasive mycosis endemic in Southeast Asia and causes substantial morbidity and mortality in individuals with advanced HIV disease. Current diagnosis relies on isolating Talaromyces marneffei in cultures, which takes up to 14 days and is detectable only during late-stage infection, leading to high mortality.

A randomized controlled trial of isoniazid to prevent Mycobacterium tuberculosis infection in Kenyan HIV-exposed uninfected infants
21 Jun 2020
Abstract

Background HIV-exposed uninfected (HEU) infants in endemic settings are at high risk of tuberculosis (TB). For infants, progression from primary M. tuberculosis infection to TB disease can be rapid. We assessed whether isoniazid (INH) prevents primary Mtbc infection.

Breastmilk and COVID-19: What Do We Know?
21 Jun 2020

Impact of Checkpoint Inhibitor Immunotherapy Primarily Pembrolizumab on Infection Risk in Patients with Advanced Lung Cancer: A Comparative Retrospective Cohort Study
21 Jun 2020
Abstract

Background Checkpoint inhibitor (CPI) immunotherapy has revolutionized cancer treatment. However, immune-related adverse events (irAEs) and the risk of infections are not well studied. To
assess the infectious risk of CPIs, we evaluated the incidence of infections in lung cancer patients treated with CPIs plus conventional chemotherapy (CC) versus CC alone.

Does this patient with urinary tract infection need blood culture?

21 Jun 2020

Response to Hamer and Millers’ Commentary, “Why did mass test and treat have no effect on malaria prevalence in western Kenya?”

21 Jun 2020

Reply to Stamatis Karakonstantis

21 Jun 2020

Outbreak of Norovirus Gastroenteritis Associated with Ice Cream Contaminated by Frozen Raspberries from China; Minnesota, USA, 2016

21 Jun 2020

ABSTRACTBackgroundNorovirus is the etiology for about 60% of foodborne outbreaks identified in Minnesota. Contamination of food during preparation by food handlers is by far the most common cause of these outbreaks. Norovirus outbreaks due to commercially distributed foods are rarely reported in the United States, and only two have been previously identified in Minnesota, both due to oysters.

Hospital Costs of Injection Drug Use in Florida

21 Jun 2020

ABSTRACT: People who inject drugs (PWID) experience significant injection related infections (IRI) at significant healthcare system cost. This article utilizes and validates an ICD-10 based algorithm to estimate hospitalized PWID populations, assess the total statewide morbidity of IRI among PWID, and calculates associated costs of care.

Measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella-zoster virus serology and infections in solid organ transplant recipients during the first year post-transplantation

21 Jun 2020

AbstractBackgroundMumps, measles, rubella, and varicella-zoster viruses (MMRV) may cause severe infections in seronegative adult solid organ transplant (SOT) recipients but can be prevented by vaccination. We aimed to determine MMRV serostatus in adult SOT recipients before and one-year post-transplantation as well as evidence of MMRV infections in a large, prospective cohort of SOT recipients.

Clinical Infectious Diseases - Current Issue

Molecular and Direct Detection Tests for Treponema pallidum Subspecies pallidum: A Review of the Literature, 1964–2017

24 Jun 2020

AbstractDirect detection methods for Treponema pallidum include dark-field microscopy (DFM), direct fluorescence antibody (DFA) testing, immunohistochemistry (IHC), and nucleic acid amplification tests (NAATs). Here, we reviewed the relevant syphilis diagnostic literature to address 2 main questions with respect to T.

Clinical Test Performance of a Rapid Point-of-Care Syphilis Treponemal Antibody Test: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis

24 Jun 2020

AbstractWe reviewed relevant syphilis diagnostic literature and conducted a meta-analysis to address the question, “What is the sensitivity and specificity of the Syphilis Health Check, a rapid qualitative test for the detection of human antibodies to Treponema pallidum?” The Syphilis Health Check is the only rapid syphilis test currently cleared by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Evidence Review for Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guidance Development on Laboratory Testing to Detect Treponema pallidum Infection (Syphilis)

24 Jun 2020

AbstractThe articles in this supplement address key questions on syphilis diagnostics, provide reference tables of test performances, and discuss optimal specimens and knowledge gaps. Laboratory-developed genetic direct detection tests could be most useful at the point of care and add to the currently available serologic methods of nontreponemal and treponemal tests.
Sensitivity and Specificity of Treponemal-specific Tests for the Diagnosis of Syphilis
24 Jun 2020
Abstract We conducted a systematic review of relevant syphilis diagnostic literature to address the question, “What is the sensitivity and specificity of the treponemal tests currently approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the diagnosis of syphilis (by stage)?” There were 16 treponemal assays evaluated: 13 immunoassays and 3 manual assays (fluorescent treponemal antibody absorbed

Syphilis Laboratory Guidelines: Performance Characteristics of Nontreponemal Antibody Tests
24 Jun 2020
Abstract We reviewed the relevant syphilis diagnostic literature to address the following question: what are the performance characteristics, stratified by the stage of syphilis, for nontreponemal serologic tests? The database search included key terms related to syphilis and nontreponemal tests from 1960–2017, and for data related to the venereal disease research laboratory test from 1940–1960

The Traditional or Reverse Algorithm for Diagnosis of Syphilis: Pros and Cons
24 Jun 2020
Abstract We reviewed relevant syphilis diagnostic literature to address the question “What diagnostic considerations should be taken into account when screening for syphilis using the traditional or reverse algorithm?” Improved laboratory diagnosis of syphilis is an important element of the effort to reduce syphilis rates

Clinical Microbiology and Infection

Corticosteroid administration for viral pneumonia: COVID-19 and beyond
28 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 27 June 2020Source: Clinical Microbiology and InfectionAuthor(s): Jia-Wei Yang, Ling Yang, Rong-Guang Luo, Jin-Fu Xu

Digital microbiology
28 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 27 June 2020Source: Clinical Microbiology and InfectionAuthor(s): Adrian Egli, Jacques Schrenzel, Gilbert Greub

Bacterial and fungal coinfection among hospitalised patients with COVID-19: A retrospective cohort study in a UK secondary care setting
28 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 27 June 2020Source: Clinical Microbiology and InfectionAuthor(s): Stephen Hughes, Oliver Troise, Hugo Donaldson, Nabeela Mughal, Luke SP. Moore

Validation of a commercially available SARS-CoV-2 serological immunoassay
28 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 27 June 2020Source: Clinical Microbiology and InfectionAuthor(s): Benjamin Meyer, Giulia Torriani, Sabine Yerly, Lena Mazza, Adrien Calame, Isabelle Arm-Vernez, Gert Zimmer, Thomas Agoritsas, Jérôme Stirnemann, Hervé Spechbach, Idris Guessous, Silvia Stringhini, Jérôme Pugin, Pascale Roux-Lombard, Lionel Fontao, Claire-Anne Siegrist, Isabella Eckerle, Nicolas

Childhood COVID-19: a multi-center retrospective study
28 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 27 June 2020Source: Clinical Microbiology and InfectionAuthor(s): Zhimin Chen, Lin Tong, Yunlian Zhou, Chunzhen Hua, Wei Wang, Junfen Fu, Qiang Shu, Liang Hong, Huiqing Xu, Zhen Xu, Yinghu Chen, Yueyan Mao, Sheng Ye, Xu Wu, Lizhen Wang, Yunling Luo, Xiaojie Zou, Xiaofen Tao, Yahua Zhang

Diagnostic strategies for SARS-CoV-2 infection and interpretation of microbiological results
26 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 25 June 2020Source: Clinical Microbiology and InfectionAuthor(s): Giorgia Caruana, Antony Croxatto, Alix T. Coste, Onya Opota, Frederic Lamoth, Katia Jaton, Gilbert Greub
Investigation of a nosocomial outbreak of COVID-19 in a pediatric ward in South Korea: Successful control by early detection and extensive contact tracing with testing
26 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 25 June 2020Source: Clinical Microbiology and InfectionAuthor(s): Jiwon Jung, Min Jee Hong, Eun Ok Kim, Jina Lee, Mi-Na Kim, Sung-Han Kim

Children and SARS-CoV-2 infection: innocent bystanders…until proven otherwise
26 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 25 June 2020Source: Clinical Microbiology and InfectionAuthor(s): Marcello Lanari, Angela Chiereghin, Giovanni Battista Biserni, Alessandro Rocca, Maria Carla Re, Tiziana Lazzarotto

Clinical characteristics of COVID-19 patients in three consecutive generations of spread in Zhejiang, China
26 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 25 June 2020Source: Clinical Microbiology and InfectionAuthor(s): Yake Yao, Wenyu Chen, Xiaomai Wu, Linfeng Shen, Lisha Shen, Yiqi Fu, Qing Yang, Ming Yao, Jiangying Zhou, Hua Zhou

Elevated body-mass index is associated with an increased risk of infectious disease admissions and mortality: a mendelian randomization study
25 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 24 June 2020Source: Clinical Microbiology and InfectionAuthor(s): Guillaume Butler-Laporte, Adil Harroud, Vincenzo Forgetta, J Brent Richards

Diagnostic accuracy of Vidisca-Ngs In patients with suspected central nervous system infections
24 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 24 June 2020Source: Clinical Microbiology and InfectionAuthor(s): Ingeborg E. van Zeggeren, Arthur W.D. Edridge, Diederik van de Beek, Martin Deijjs, Sylvie M. Koekkoek, Katja C. Wolthers, Lia van der Hoek, Matthijs C. Brouwer

Anaphylaxis due to anisakidosis
23 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 22 June 2020Source: Clinical Microbiology and InfectionAuthor(s): Brice Autier, Sophie Stéphanth, Christine Beusnel, Pierre Sichel, Sorya Belaz, Jean-Pierre Gangneux, Florence Robert-Gangneux

Large-scale implementation of pooled RNA extraction and RT-PCR for SARS-CoV-2 detection
23 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 23 June 2020Source: Clinical Microbiology and InfectionAuthor(s): Roni Ben-Ami, Agnes Klochendler, Matan Seidel, Tal Sido, Ori Gurel-Gurevich, Moran Yassour, Eran Meshorer, Gil Benedek, Irit Fogel, Esther Oiknine-Dijan, Asaf Gertler, Zeev Rotstein, Bruno Lavi, Yuval Dor, Dana G. Wolf, Maayan Salton, Yotam Drier, Agnes Klochendler, Amir Eden, Avihu Klar

Current Opinion in Microbiology

I want to break free – macrophage strategies to recognize and kill Candida albicans, and fungal counter-strategies to escape
28 Jun 2020
Publication date: December 2020Source: Current Opinion in Microbiology, Volume 58Author(s): Sophie Austermeier, Lydia Kasper, Johannes Westman, Mark S Gresnigt

Soluble mediators in anti-fungal immunity
28 Jun 2020
Publication date: December 2020Source: Current Opinion in Microbiology, Volume 58Author(s): Sarah Dellière, Sarah Sze Wah Wong, Vishukumar Aimananda
Targeted mutagenesis of multiple chromosomal regions in microbes
28 Jun 2020
Publication date: October 2020Source: Current Opinion in Microbiology, Volume 57Author(s): Bálint Csörgő, Akos Nyerges, Csaba Pál

Current Opinion in Virology

AGL2017-82570-Reverse genetics approaches for the development of new vaccines against influenza A virus infections
28 Jun 2020
Publication date: October 2020Source: Current Opinion in Virology, Volume 44Author(s): Luis Martinez-Sobrido, Marta L DeDiego, Aitor Nogales

Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious Disease

Relevance of Dermabacter hominis isolated from clinical samples, 2012–2016: A retrospective case series
25 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 24 June 2020Source: Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious DiseaseAuthor(s): Cédéric Schaub, Sarah Dräger, Vladimira Hinic, Stefano Bassetti, Reno Frei, Michael Osthoff

Emerging Infectious Diseases Journal - ahead of print

Population Genomic Structure and Recent Evolution of Plasmodium knowlesi, Peninsular Malaysia
25 Jun 2020
S. E. Hocking et al.

Increasing Malaria Parasite Clearance Time after Chloroquine Therapy, South Korea, 2000–2016
25 Jun 2020
S. Park et al.

Plasma-Derived Extracellular Vesicles as Potential Biomarkers in Heart Transplant Patient with Chronic Chagas Disease
25 Jun 2020
N. Cortes-Serra et al.

Intact Mycobacterium leprae Isolated from Placenta of a Pregnant Woman, China
25 Jun 2020
A. Singh et al.

Epidemiology of Legionnaires’ Disease, Hong Kong, China, 2005–2015
25 Jun 2020
Y. Leung et al.

Etymologia: Acanthamoeba
25 Jun 2020
N. Pradhan

Rise in Babesiosis Cases, Pennsylvania, USA, 2005–2018
25 Jun 2020
D. Ingram and T. Crook
Human Outbreak of Trichinellosis Caused by Trichinella papuae Nematodes, Central Kampong Thom Province, Cambodia
25 Jun 2020
Y. Caron et al.

COVID-19 Outbreak Associated with Air Conditioning in Restaurant, Guangzhou, China, 2020
24 Jun 2020
F. W. Moses et al.

Methemoglobinemia in Patient with G6PD Deficiency and SARS-CoV-2 Infection
24 Jun 2020
K. Palmer et al.

Prolonged Infectivity of SARS-CoV-2 in Fomites
24 Jun 2020
B. Pastorino et al.

Etymologia: Dermatophyte
24 Jun 2020
A. E. Santana and F. P. Sellera

Antibody Responses to SARS-CoV-2 at 8 Weeks Postinfection in Asymptomatic Patients
24 Jun 2020
P. Choe et al.

Asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 Infection in Nursing Homes, Barcelona, Spain, April 2020
23 Jun 2020
B. Borras-Bermejo et al.

Operating Protocols of a Community Treatment Center for Isolation of Patients with Coronavirus Disease, South Korea
22 Jun 2020
E. Kang et al.

Clinical Course of Asymptomatic and Mildly Symptomatic Patients with Coronavirus Disease Admitted to Community Treatment Centers, South Korea
22 Jun 2020
Y. Lee et al.

Persistence of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 in Aerosol Suspensions
22 Jun 2020
A. C. Fears et al.

Community Treatment Centers for Isolation of Asymptomatic and Mildly Symptomatic Patients with Coronavirus Disease, South Korea
22 Jun 2020
W. Choi et al.

Eurosurveillance latest updates

Recurrent invasive meningococcal infections – quantifying the risk, Germany, 2002 to 2018
25 Jun 2020
Introduction Invasive meningococcal disease (IMD) is a rare condition with a high case fatality rate. While most patients suffer from one single episode in life, there is anecdotal evidence for recurrent infection

Rapid spread of OXA-244-producing Escherichia coli ST38 in Germany: insights from an integrated molecular surveillance approach; 2017 to January 2020
Annually, increasing numbers of OXA-244-producing Escherichia coli in 13 German federal states prompted us to initiate an outbreak investigation. Whole genome sequencing revealed that among 148 isolates analysed, most belonged to sequence type 38 with 62 isolates forming a genetically distinct cluster.

An epidemic CC1-MRSA-IV clone yields false-negative test results in molecular MRSA identification assays: a note of caution, Austria, Germany, Ireland, 2020

We investigated why a clinical meticillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) isolate yielded false-negative results with some commercial PCR tests for MRSA detection. We found that an epidemic European CC1-MRSA-IV clone generally exhibits this behaviour. The failure of the assays was attributable to a large insertion in the orfX/SCCmec integration site.

SARS-CoV-2 does not replicate in embryonated hen's eggs or in MDCK cell lines

The advent of COVID-19, has posed a risk that human respiratory samples containing human influenza viruses may also contain SARS-CoV-2. This potential risk may lead to SARS-CoV-2 contaminating conventional influenza vaccine production platforms as respiratory samples are used to directly inoculate embryonated hen's eggs and continuous cell lines that are used to isolate and produce influenza.

Active surveillance of acute paediatric hospitalisations demonstrates the impact of vaccination programmes and informs vaccine policy in Canada and Australia

Sentinel surveillance of acute hospitalisations in response to infectious disease emergencies such as the 2009 influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 pandemic is well described, but recognition of its potential to supplement routine public health surveillance and provide scalability for emergency responses has been limited.

COVID-19, equipoise and observational studies: a reminder of forgotten issues

Correction to: Clinical management of ageing people living with HIV in Europe: the view of the care providers

Utility of CT scan in patients with initial negative PCR for SARS-CoV2: a report of three cases

Will the COVID-19 pandemic slow down in the Northern hemisphere by the onset of summer? An epidemiological hypothesis

Abstract The COVID-19 pandemic has affected most countries of the world. As corona viruses are highly prevalent in the cold season, the question remains whether or not the pandemic will improve with increasing temperatures in the Northern hemisphere. We use data from a primary care registry of almost 15,000 patients over 20 years to retrieve information on viral respiratory infection outbreaks.

Regional and statewide antibiograms as targeted interventions against antibiotic resistance
Sequential introduction of a multistep testing algorithm and nucleic acid amplification testing leading to an increase in Clostridioides difficile detection and a trend toward increased strain diversity

Impact of rapid diagnostics with antimicrobial stewardship support for children with positive blood cultures: A quasi-experimental study with time trend analysis

Risk factors and outcomes of patients colonized with carbapenemase-producing and non–carbapenemase-producing carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae

Cohorting KPC+ Klebsiella pneumoniae (KPC-Kp)–positive patients: A genomic exposé of cross-colonization hazards in a long-term acute-care hospital (LTACH)

Influence of different definitions of central venous catheter–related bloodstream infections on epidemiological parameters in cancer patients

Unintended consequences of a reflex urine culture order set on appropriate antibiotic use

Correlation of intraoperative donor duodenal-segment swab cultures with the subsequent occurrence of surgical site infections in kidney and pancreas transplant recipients

Evaluating and prioritizing antimicrobial stewardship programs for nursing homes: A modified Delphi panel

Severe influenza/respiratory syncytial virus infections and hospital antimicrobial stewardship opportunities: impact of a 4-year surveillance including molecular diagnosis

Widespread severe acute respiratory coronavirus virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) laboratory surveillance program to minimize asymptomatic transmission in high-risk inpatient and congregate living settings

RT-PCR tests for SARS-CoV-2 processed at a large Italian Hospital and false-negative results among confirmed COVID-19 cases
Adverse effects of nasopharyngeal swabs: Three-dimensional printed versus commercial swabs
11 Jun 2020
Published online by Cambridge University Press:
Overcoming COVID-19: Addressing the perception of risk and transitioning protective behaviors to habits
09 Jun 2020
Published online by Cambridge University Press:

International Journal of Infectious Diseases

Important factors causing high fatal cases of Naegleria fowleri primary amoebic meningoencephalitis in Pakistan
28 Jun 2020
Publication date: August 2020Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases, Volume 97Author(s): Asad Mustafa Karim, Muhammad Yasir, Irfan Ullah, Jung Hun Lee, Sang Hee Lee

Multiple assays in a real-time RT-PCR SARS-CoV-2 panel can mitigate the risk of loss of sensitivity by new genomic variants during the COVID-19 outbreak
28 Jun 2020
Publication date: August 2020Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases, Volume 97Author(s): Luis Peñarrubia, Maria Ruiz, Roberto Porco, Sonia N. Rao, Martí Juanola-Falgarona, Davide Manissero, Marta López-Fontanals, Josep Pareja

Comparison of diagnostic accuracy of the GeneXpert Ultra, and cell-free nucleic acid assay for tuberculous meningitis: a multicenter prospective study
28 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 26 June 2020Source: International Journal of Infectious DiseasesAuthor(s): Lingling Shao, Chao Qiu, Liheng Zheng, Yang Yang, Xinting Yang, Qingtao Liang, Yun Zhang, Nanying Che, Yu Pang, Hongfei Duan

The global state of clinical research and trends in periprosthetic joint infection: A bibliometric analysis
28 Jun 2020
Publication date: July 2020Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases, Volume 96Author(s): Cheng Li, Cristina Ojeda-Thies, Nora Renz, Donara Margaryan, Carsten Perka, Andrej Trampuz

Cost-effectiveness of introducing a domestic pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV7-TT) into the Cuban national immunization programme
28 Jun 2020
Publication date: August 2020Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases, Volume 97Author(s): Anai García Fariñas, Nivaldo Linares-Pérez, Andrew Clark, María Eugenia Toledo-Romani, Nathalie El Omeiri, Martha C. Marrero Araújo, Isabel Pilar González Luis, Gilda Toraño Peraza, Alicia Reyes Jiménez, Lena López Ambrón, the Cuban Pneumococcal Vaccine Working Group

Comparing COVID-19 and the 1918–19 influenza pandemics in United Kingdom
28 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 26 June 2020Source: International Journal of Infectious DiseasesAuthor(s): Daihai He, Zhao Shi, Yingke Li, Peihua Cao, Daizhou Gao, Yijun Lou, Lin Yang

Could sudden sensorineural hearing loss be the sole manifestation of COVID-19? An investigation into SARS-COV-2 in the etiology of sudden sensorineural hearing loss
25 Jun 2020
Publication date: August 2020Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases, Volume 97Author(s): Osman Kılıç, Mahmut Tayyar Kalcıoğlu, Yasemin Cag, Ozan Tuysuz, Emel Pektas, Hulya Caskurlu, Ferihan Cetin
Refractory mucocutaneous leishmaniasis resolved with combination treatment based on intravenous pentamidine, oral azole, aerosolized liposomal amphotericin B, and intralesional meglumine antimoniate
25 Jun 2020
Publication date: August 2020Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases, Volume 97Author(s): Gregorio Basile, Glauco Cristofaro, Luca Giovanni Locatello, Iacopo Vellere, Matteo Piccica, Silvia Bresci, Giandomenico Maggiore, Oreste Gallo, Andrea Novelli, Trentina Di Muccio, Marina Gramiccia, Luigi Gradoni, Giovanni Gaiera, Alessandro Bartoloni, Lorenzo Zammarchi

Atypical extensive tinea corporis caused by Trichophyton tonsurans
24 Jun 2020
Publication date: August 2020Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases, Volume 97Author(s): Mohammad Akhoundi, Anthony Marteau, Sophie Brun, Arezki Izri

Estimating the undetected infections in the Covid-19 outbreak by harnessing capture–recapture methods
24 Jun 2020
Publication date: August 2020Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases, Volume 97Author(s): Dankmar Böhning, Irene Rocchetti, Antonello Maruotti, Heinz Holling
Since the SARS-CoV-2 outbreak, Emergency Departments (EDs) have been through continuous reorganization in order to deal with both COVID-19 and ordinary patients. Nevertheless, previous evidence reports hospitals to be an important source of contagion during epidemic [1,2], making it essential to control the infection risk in healthcare settings.

**Influence of delivery system on the efficacy of low concentrations of H2O2 in the disinfection of common healthcare associated infection pathogens**

The ability of healthcare associated infection pathogens to survive on environmental surfaces is well known. Disinfection is employed to reduce or remove these pathogens however disinfection failures still occur. One method with the potential to improve disinfection efficacy is whole room disinfection with H2O2.

**Autoclave Sterilization and Ethanol Treatment of Re-used Surgical Masks and N95 Respirators during COVID-19: Impact on their Performance and Integrity**

An exceptionally high demand for surgical masks and N95 filtering facepiece respirators (FFRs) during the COVID-19 pandemic has considerably exceeded their supply. These disposable devices are generally not approved for routine decontamination and re-use as standard of care while this practice has widely occurred in hospitals.

**Dynamic of SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR positivity and seroprevalence among high-risk health care workers and hospital staff**

Staff members from Covid-19 highly exposed units were invited to participate in a six month study of SARS-CoV-2 carriage and seroprevalence. The results of Day 1 and Day 15 visits show that 41 SARS-CoV-2 infections were confirmed by RT-PCR and/or serology in 326 participants (overall infection rate=12.6%).

**From bench to bedside – Development of an integrated COVID-19 patient flow management system**

This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

**Do established infection prevention and control measures prevent spread of SARS-CoV-2 to the hospital environment beyond the patient room?**

The role of the hospital environment in the transmission of infection is well described. With an emerging infection whose mode of transmission is under investigation, strict infection prevention and control measures, including patient isolation, hand hygiene, personal protective equipment that is doffed on exiting the patient room, and environmental cleaning should be implemented to prevent

**Severe COVID-19 and Healthcare Associated Infections on the ICU: Time to Remember the Basics?**

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) has posed a significant health care challenge globally, with intensive care unit (ICU) provision being of particular consequence [1]. In the UK, where ICU beds are already lower per head of population than in much of the rest of Europe [2], there has been a requirement to rapidly expand ICU bed capacity in response.

**Bacterial skin recolonization in the operating room: comparison between various antisepsis protocols**

Surgical site infection (SSI) largely implicates the patient’s endogenous skin microbiota. Perioperative disinfection protocols do not follow a general agreement.

**An Observational Study to Identify Types of Personal Protective Equipment Breaches on Inpatient Wards**

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, UK Infection Prevention & Control (IP&C) guidelines have been published on using personal protective equipment (PPE) in various healthcare settings [1]. Improper PPE
use can compromise the protection afforded by it [2]. The IP&C guidelines [1] highlight actions which may constitute a PPE 'breach'.

The ways in which healthcare interior environments are associated with perception of safety from infectious diseases and coping behaviours

Global pandemic outbreaks often have people feared. Healthcare personnel (HCP), especially those fighting the pathogens at the front lines, encounter a higher risk of being infected, while they treat patients. In addition, a variety of environmental fomites in hospitals, which may contain infectious agents, can post a high risk of getting infectious diseases.

Comparison of pulsed-field gel electrophoresis and whole-genome-sequencing-based typing confirms the accuracy of pulsed-field gel electrophoresis for the investigation of local Pseudomonas aeruginosa outbreaks

To determine whether pulsed-field gel electrophoresis (PFGE) accurately recognizes isolates belonging to clusters defined by techniques based on whole-genome sequencing (WGS) using Pseudomonas aeruginosa as a model.

Journal of Infection

COVID-19 and TB co-infection - 'Finishing touch' in perfect recipe to 'severity' or 'death'

Co-infections are increasingly being recognised in respiratory tract infections (RTIs) with the advent of highly sensitive techniques for micro-organism detection and identification (e.g. MALDI-TOF, Multiplex PCR). Co-infections involving the respiratory tract pose clinical dilemmas and diagnostic and therapeutic challenges.

REPLY TO: Interleukin-17: a potential therapeutic target in COVID-19

We read with great interest the paper by Mendoza, which suggests the use of anti-IL-17 therapy in coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) patients.1 While agreeing on the potential role of anti-IL-17 drugs in controlling the excessive production of inflammatory cytokines, we would like to emphasize another possible relevant benefit that could derive from using these treatments in such patients.

A Large Scale Waterborne Campylobacteriosis Outbreak, Havelock North, New Zealand

The contamination of the untreated reticulated water supply occurred following a very heavy rainfall event which caused drainage of sheep feces into a shallow aquifer. The existence of a routine clinical surveillance system for campylobacteriosis facilitated identification of the outbreak, recovery of clinical isolates, and early testing of the water for pathogens.

Investigation of a family outbreak of COVID-19 using systematic rapid diagnostic tests raises new questions about transmission

We read with interest the letter by Jian and colleagues who described the spread of SARS-CoV-2 in a family cluster in China.1 Herein, we describe the epidemiological, clinical and biological characteristics of 30 households in close contact with SARS-CoV-2-infected members, living in a confined environment during the French national lockdown.

The role of volatile organic compounds as predictors of treatment response in drug susceptible TB patients: an initial proof of concept study

To eliminate Tuberculosis (TB), we need shorter and effective treatment regimens. The World Health Organization (WHO) defines 'cured TB' as: "A pulmonary TB patient with bacteriologically confirmed TB at the beginning of treatment who was smear- or culture-negative in the last month of treatment and on at least one previous occasion"
The usefulness of quantitative interferon-gamma releasing assay response for predicting active tuberculosis in kidney transplant recipients: a quasi-experimental study
28 Jun 2020
The development of highly sensitive and specific test to diagnose the latent TB infection (LTBI) is important to lower the incidence of tuberculosis (TB). Over the past 80 years, the tuberculin skin test (TST) has been used as the method of choice for detecting LTBI. However, TST has low sensitivity and specificity for the diagnosis of LTBI

Distinct and early increase in circulating MMP-9 in COVID-19 patients with respiratory failure
27 Jun 2020
Respiratory failure is common and the most severe complication in Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 disease of 2019 (COVID-19) [1]. We read with much interest the recent article in Your Journal by Ye Q. et al. describing the “cytokine storm” in COVID patients, illustrating that while a balanced immune response may eliminate invading microbes, an overwhelming response with elevated levels of multiple

Improving antibiotic stewardship in COVID-19: bacterial co-infection is less common than with influenza
25 Jun 2020
In the recent systematic review and meta-analysis by Lansbury et al. only 7% of hospitalised patients with COVID-19 were reported as having evidence of bacterial co-infection, yet >90% received empirical antibiotics

Viral dynamics of SARS-CoV-2 in saliva from infected patients
25 Jun 2020
We read with great interest the recent study by Azzi et al.1 who reported that saliva was a reliable tool to detect severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) and further confirmed by Iwasaki et al.2 that saliva was a noninvasive alternative to nasopharyngeal (NP) swabs

The association of hypertension with the severity and mortality of COVID-19 patients: evidence based on adjusted effect estimates
25 Jun 2020
Previous studies have shown that common comorbidities were significantly associated with the increased risk of adverse outcomes in patients with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)1. As we know, hypertension was the most common comorbidities among COVID-19 patients2

The role of healthcare staff COVID-19 screening in infection prevention & control
25 Jun 2020
The current COVID-19 pandemic presents many unique challenges for occupational health medicine and infection prevention and control (IPC) in hospitals. While many hospital services were postponed during the pandemic's first peak, the resumption of routine services in an environment where patients still present with COVID-19 raises concerns over the potential for significant nosocomial COVID-19

A tale of two cities: a comparison of Hong Kong and Singapore’s early strategies for the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
25 Jun 2020
As the dreadful Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic continues to plague communities and societies worldwide, the discussion surrounding the purported efficacy and recommendation to wear face masks in public spaces persists. A recently published study by Cheng et al

Retrospective, multicenter study on the impact of baricitinib in COVID-19 moderate pneumonia
24 Jun 2020
As recently discussed in the Journal [1], baricitinib was safe and improved the clinical conditions in 12 patients with mild-moderate Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pneumonia. It is known that severe symptoms of COVID-19 may develop after a median of 8-days from illness-onset, with a median time to Intensive Care Unit (ICU) admission of 5 days from the dyspnea occurrence [2]

Serum ferritin as an independent risk factor for severity in COVID-19 patients
24 Jun 2020
In this Journal, Li and colleagues recently reported that Serum Amyloid A is a biomarker of severe Coronavirus Disease and poor prognosis1. Evidence shows that severe COVID-19 cases exhibit
features of systemic inflammatory reactions, including hyperferritinemia. We conducted a retrospective study included 147 confirmed COVID-19 patients in Changsha, a non-epicenter city of China

Persisting olfactory dysfunction in patients after recovering from COVID-19
24 Jun 2020
As reported in this Journal by Noh et al, some series of COVID-19 include at least 25% of patients with anosmia 1. Olfactory dysfunction is one of the key symptoms for the virus’ neurotropism, with the olfactory cleft as a possible entry for the virus into the CNS 2,3.

OUTBREAK OF COVID-19 IN A NURSING HOME IN MADRID
24 Jun 2020
We read with interest the study by Wang and colleagues recently reporting a high proportion of severe to critical cases associated to a high mortality in elderly hospitalized patients with COVID-19, what is in line with other reports

Molecular identification of Cryptococcus gattii from cerebrospinal fluid using single-cell sequencing: a case study
23 Jun 2020
A 31-year-old man presented with cryptococcal meningitis (CM) without typical clinical characteristics, but with abnormal walking, difficult leg lifting and frequent falling. He was admitted to a hospital in Beijing for two months and then transferred to Peking Union Medical College Hospital

Journal of Microbiology, Immunology and Infection

Alteration of Oral Flora in Betel Quid Chewers in Sri Lanka
28 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 27 June 2020Source: Journal of Microbiology, Immunology and InfectionAuthor(s): Osamu Uehara, Daichi Hiraki, Yasuhiro Kuramitsu, Hirofumi Matsuoka, Rie Takai, Mari Fujita, Fumiya Harada, Durga Paudel, Shuhei Takahashi, Koki Yoshida, Malsantha Muthumala, Hiroki Nagayasu, Itsuo Chiba, Yoshihiro Abiko

Performance Evaluation of EuDxTM ufPCR Flu & RSV Detection Kit for Detection of Influenza A/B and Respiratory Syncytial Virus
28 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 27 June 2020Source: Journal of Microbiology, Immunology and InfectionAuthor(s): Yong Kwan Lim, Oh Joo Kweon, Hye Ryoun Kim, Tae-Hyoung Kim, Ah Ra Cho, Mi-Kyung Lee

Differential DNA methylation profiles of peripheral blood mononuclear cells in allergic asthmatic children following dust mite immunotherapy
28 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 26 June 2020Source: Journal of Microbiology, Immunology and InfectionAuthor(s): Chuang-Ming Wang, Chia-Bin Chang, Shiao-Pieng Lee, Michael W-Y Chan, Shu-Fen Wu

Identifying predictors for bacterial and fungal coinfection on chest computed tomography in patients with Pneumocystis pneumonia
28 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 26 June 2020Source: Journal of Microbiology, Immunology and InfectionAuthor(s): Huan-Yi Wu, Kuan-Sheng Wu, Yi-Luan Huang, Shr-Hau Dai, Ding-Yu Chang, Shuhung Kuo, Shun-Yi Chen, Chih-Chen Chou, Ya-Wei Weng, Yu-Ting Tseng, Jui-Kuang Chen, Cheng-Len Sy, Hung-Chin Tsai, Susan Shin-Jung Lee, Yao-Shen Chen

SARS-CoV-2 host diversity: An update of natural infections and experimental evidences
25 Jun 2020
Publication date: Available online 25 June 2020Source: Journal of Microbiology, Immunology and InfectionAuthor(s): Md. Golzar Hossain, Sharmin Akter, Sukumar Saha

CD8+CD122+ T cell homeostasis is controlled by different levels of IL-15 trans-presentation
24 Jun 2020
Lancet

[Editorial] Generation coronavirus?
26 Jun 2020
The catastrophic elements that have perpetuated the COVID-19 pandemic—global interconnectedness, climate change due to human activity, vast economic inequality, and deep veins of antiscience—have resulted in more than 9 million infections and almost 500 000 deaths worldwide.

Lancet: Infectious Diseases

[Correspondence] Changes in M types of Streptococcus pyogenes in Chinese children with scarlet fever
25 Jun 2020
We would like to add some thoughts to the Correspondence by Yuanhai You and colleagues1 on the surveillance of Streptococcus pyogenes M types in China. First, the Chinese Government has always attached great importance to the management and prevention of infectious diseases;2 studies of S pyogenes began in the early 1990s.3

[Newsdesk] Cabotegravir, a new option for PrEP
25 Jun 2020
Data from the HPTN 083 trial have shown long-acting injectable cabotegravir to be more effective than oral PrEP in preventing HIV. Tony Kirby reports.

[Newsdesk] COVID-19 in Iran: round 2
25 Jun 2020
Iran is struggling to control COVID-19 between difficult public health decisions and persistent international sanctions. Priya Venkatesan reports.

[Newsdesk] Infectious disease surveillance update
25 Jun 2020
Cases of Guinea worm disease have been reported in Ethiopia for the first time since December 2017. Between Apr 2 and 27, there were seven suspected human cases of Guinea worm in the Gog district in the Gambella region. The reported cases all drank water from unsafe farm ponds, which were also previously associated with baboon infection in June 2019.

[Profile] Anita Zaidi
25 Jun 2020
Anita Zaidi had resisted becoming a paediatrician like her mother, “but that changed when I realised the pure joy that I got from healing children”, she tells The Lancet Infectious Diseases. Ever since, her career has maintained a strong focus on maternal, child, and newborn health.

[Media Watch] COVID-19: Playing away the pandemic
25 Jun 2020
Markus Geiger is a mechanical engineer based in Munich, Germany, whose night job is to create board games. Father of two, the 39-year old Geiger owns a company where he churns out games using 3D printers and CO2 laser cutters. His latest release is Corona Battle Against COVID-19, which he touts to kill the lockdown boredom.

[Clinical Picture] Refractory laryngeal papillomatosis requiring total laryngectomy
25 Jun 2020
A 35-year-old man with a history of two living-related kidney transplantations due to IgA nephropathy presented with a hoarse voice after a tonsillectomy for recurrent IgA nephropathy. Laryngoscopy revealed papillomas on the bilateral vocal cords. The patient underwent oral papillomectomy and pathological examination revealed a benign squamous papilloma.

[Correspondence] The INHALE trial: multiple reasons for a negative result – Authors’ reply
25 Jun 2020
Jean-Jacques Rouby and colleagues have commented on the negative result of our study of inhaled amikacin as adjunctive therapy for mechanically ventilated patients with Gram-negative pneumonia.\textsuperscript{1} They have concluded that errors in trial design and the specifics of the inhalation device, the pulmonary drug delivery system, account for these findings.

[Clinical Picture] Acute respiratory distress syndrome during a pandemic—an obvious diagnosis?
25 Jun 2020

A man aged 28 years was admitted to hospital with fever and headache in April, 2020. Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) PCR testing from an oropharyngeal swab was negative, and he was discharged from hospital and sent home the next day. 8 days later, he presented again with dry cough and severe respiratory distress.

[Correspondence] The INHALE trial: multiple reasons for a negative result
25 Jun 2020

The INHALE trial, a Bayer-sponsored phase 3 trial in critically ill patients with pneumonia caused by Gram-negative bacteria by Michael Niederman and colleagues,\textsuperscript{1} did not find aerosolised amikacin as an adjunctive therapy to intravenous antibiotics to be superior to intravenous antibiotics alone.

[Newsdesk] Stigma during the COVID-19 pandemic
25 Jun 2020

Healthcare workers and patients who have survived COVID-19 are facing stigma and discrimination all over the world. Sanjeet Bagchi reports.

[Newsdesk] High COVID-19 testing rate in Portugal
25 Jun 2020

A sense of civic duty and mutual confidence between scientists and health authorities played a role in Portugal high testing rates. Marcia Triunfol reports.

[Newsdesk] Global shortage of personal protective equipment
25 Jun 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic has unearthed lack of coordination and equal access to personal protective equipment around the world. Talha Burki reports.

[Newsdesk] Research brief
25 Jun 2020

Despite the direct neuronal path between the nose and the brain's olfactory bulb, airborne diseases rarely cause fatal encephalitis. Findings from a study in mice suggest that viruses can reach the olfactory bulb but a frontline immune reaction prevents any damage or further spread.

[Obituary] Jacques Acar
25 Jun 2020

The Professor Emeritus at the Pierre and Marie Curie University, Paris was a patron of microbiology and antimicrobial stewardship. He died on March 27, 2020.

[Media Watch] Act Up, the heart of French AIDS activism
25 Jun 2020

Based on fieldwork conducted since the early 1990s, Action=Vie: A History of AIDS Activism and Gay Politics in France is an updated, extended translation of the book published in French in 2005, where the sociologist Christophe Broqua sheds light on the interplay between the politics of AIDS and homosexuality in France's leading AIDS activism organisation.

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

HIV Testing Trends at Visits to Physician Offices, Community Health Centers, and Emergency Departments - United States, 2009-2017
25 Jun 2020

This report describes that during 2009-2017, human immunodeficiency virus testing at U.S. physician offices, community health centers, and emergency departments remained low.

Progress Toward Polio Eradication - Worldwide, January 2018-March 2020
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This report describes efforts to conduct polio immunization and surveillance activities and the impact of coronavirus disease 2019 on these efforts.
Notes from the Field: Measles Outbreak Associated with International Air Travel - California, March-April 2017
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This report describes a 2017 measles outbreak in California associated with international air travel.

Characteristics of Women of Reproductive Age with Laboratory-Confirmed SARS-CoV-2 Infection by Pregnancy Status - United States, January 20-June 7, 2020
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Data findings on pregnant and nonpregnant women with laboratory-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection and found that pregnant women are more likely admitted to an intensive care unit admission and to receive mechanical ventilation.

Outbreaks Associated with Untreated Recreational Water - California, Maine, and Minnesota, 2018-2019
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This report highlights three examples of disease outbreaks linked to untreated recreational water that occurred during 2018-2019.

Notes from the Field: E-cigarette, or Vaping, Product Use-Associated Lung Injury Cases During the COVID-19 Response - California, 2020
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This report describes eight patients hospitalized with e-cigarette, or vaping, product use-associated lung injury and reported to the California Department of Public Health in April 2020 during the early coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic.

QuickStats: Age-Adjusted Percentage of Adults Aged ≥18 Years Who Currently Have Asthma, by Sex and Race/Ethnicity - National Health Interview Survey, United States, 2017-2018
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This report describes that during 2017-2018, women aged ≥18 years were more likely than men to currently have asthma.

RECOMMENDATIONS and REPORTS: Assessing Solid Organ Donors and Monitoring Transplant Recipients for Human Immunodeficiency Virus, Hepatitis B Virus, and Hepatitis C Virus Infection - U.S. Public Health Service Guideline, 2020
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This report describes the June 2020 U.S. Public Health Service guidelines which recommend actions healthcare providers can take before and after transplant to minimize the risk of infection

EARLY RELEASE: COVID-19 Outbreak Among College Students After a Spring Break Trip to Mexico - Austin, Texas, March 26-April 5, 2020
24 Jun 2020
This report describes the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 during and after a college spring break trip and the measures which helped control the outbreak.

EARLY RELEASE: Potential Indirect Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Use of Emergency Departments for Acute Life-Threatening Conditions - United States, January-May 2020
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This report describes the decline in emergency department visits for heart attack, stroke, and hyperglycemic crisis in the 10 weeks following declaration of the COVID-19 national emergency.
During target protection, a resistance protein physically associates with an antibiotic target to rescue the latter from antibiotic-mediated inhibition

Finding the difference

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This study reports the strain-level and genomic diversity in the gut microbiota of two closely related honey bee species.

Reducing cholesterol levels

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This study reports the identification of cholesterol dehydrogenases from gut microbiomes that modulate host cholesterol levels.

Catching the mode of action

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This study provides structural insights into the mechanism of action of mycobacterial arabinosyltransferases and the mode of action of an anti-tuberculosis drug targeting those enzymes.

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