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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- British Medical Association - 1
- European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control - 2

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- Clinical Infectious Diseases - Advance Access - 28
- Clinical Infectious Diseases - Current Issue - 7
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- Current Opinion in Microbiology - 5
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- Journal of Hospital Infection - 3
- Journal of Infection - 4
- Journal of Infection Prevention - 1
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- Lancet - 1
- Microbiology and Molecular Biology Reviews: Current Issue - 1
- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) - 10
- Nature Reviews Microbiology - Current Issue - 2
- New England Journal of Medicine - Current Issue - 3
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COVID-19 related research

COVID-19 infection

Covid-19 in Brazil: the government has failed to prevent the spread of covid-19
05 Mar 2021
Under the leadership of president Jair Bolsonaro, the federal government in Brazil has failed to implement a systematic plan to prevent the spread covid-19. Instead, under the pretext of shortening [...] More... The post Covid-19 in Brazil: the government has failed to prevent the spread of covid-19 appeared first on The BMJ.

Covid-19: Universities may need to test students every three days to prevent major outbreaks, say researchers
03 Mar 2021
The emergence of more transmissible variants of SARS-CoV-2 may mean needing to test students every three days to prevent major outbreaks, researchers have said. The government has advised universities...

Covid-19: Schedule breast screening before vaccine or 4 to 6 weeks after to avoid false positives, says guidance
03 Mar 2021
Breast screening appointments should be scheduled to take place before women receive a first dose of covid-19 vaccine or four to six weeks after the second dose when possible, the Drug Safety...

A living WHO guideline on drugs to prevent covid-19
02 Mar 2021
Abstract
Clinical question
What is the role of drugs in preventing covid-19? Why does this matter? There is widespread interest in whether drug interventions can be used for the prevention of covid-19,...

Infection-related guidance

British Association for Sexual Health and HIV

The new guidelines for HIV PEP have been published, in collaboration with BHIVA. Please navigate to the Current Guidelines section.
03 Mar 2021

British Medical Association

Effort to tackle COVID's effects on ethnic minorities 'too slow'
01 Mar 2021
Ministers must focus on addressing health inequalities relating to COVID-19, the BMA has said, following a report showing BAME communities are still being disproportionately affected.
European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis in the EU/EEA and the UK: implementation, standards and monitoring
05 Mar 2021
This operational guidance document provides practical recommendations and key considerations to inform the development and implementation of PrEP programmes at national and sub-national levels throughout the EU/EEA.

Methods for the detection and identification of SARS-CoV-2 variants
03 Mar 2021
confirm infection with a specific variant. For early detection and prevalence calculation of variants of

Infection-related journals

American Journal of Infection Control

Patient, family, and visitor hand hygiene knowledge, attitudes, and practices at pediatric and maternity hospitals: A descriptive study
01 Mar 2021
Health care-associated infections (HAIs) are a significant source of health care costs, and patient morbidity and mortality [1]. When compared to 11 other developed countries in 2008, the World Health Organization found that Canada had the highest national average of HAIs with a prevalence rate of 11.8% [2]

Sputum Susceptibilities in a Nationwide Veteran Cohort
01 Mar 2021
Respiratory infections are one of the most common causes of morbidity and mortality related to infectious diseases worldwide with pneumonia being among the most prevalent.1 In recent years, drug-resistant bacteria have become a major obstacle for hospitals and patients, particularly with the emergence of multi-drug resistant bacteria, leading to an unprecedented burden on the treatment and

Clinical Infectious Diseases - Advance Access

High-dose oral and intravenous rifampicin for the treatment of tuberculous meningitis in predominantly HIV-positive Ugandan adults: a phase II open-label randomised controlled trial
08 Mar 2021
AbstractBackgroundHigh-dose rifampicin may improve outcomes of tuberculous meningitis (TBM). Little safety or pharmacokinetic (PK) data exist on high-dose rifampicin in HIV co-infection, and no cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) PK data exist from Africa. We hypothesized that high-dose rifampicin would increase serum and CSF concentrations without excess toxicity

Association of Intensity of Anti-Pseudomonal Antibiotic Therapy With Risk of Treatment-Emergent Organisms in Cystic Fibrosis Children with Newly Acquired Pseudomonas Aeruginosa
06 Mar 2021
AbstractBackgroundWhile Pseudomonas aeruginosa (Pa) eradication regimens have contributed to a decline in Pa prevalence in people with cystic fibrosis (CF), this antibiotic exposure might increase the risk of acquisition of drug-resistant organisms

Randomized Trial of Ruxolitinib in Antiretroviral-Treated Adults with HIV
Inflammation is associated with end-organ disease and mortality for people with HIV (PWH). Ruxolitinib, a Jak 1/2 inhibitor, reduces systemic inflammation for individuals without HIV and HIV reservoir markers ex vivo. The goal of this trial was to determine safety and efficacy of ruxolitinib for PWH on antiretroviral therapy (ART).

Are some COVID vaccines better than others? Interpreting and comparing estimates of efficacy in trials of COVID-19 vaccines

COVID-19 vaccine trials provide valuable insight into the safety and efficacy of vaccines, with individually-randomized, placebo-controlled trials being the gold standard in trial design. However, a myriad of variables must be considered as clinical trial data are interpreted and used to guide policy decisions.

Impressive boosting of anti-S1/S2 IgG production in COVID-19-experienced patients after the first shot of the BNT162b2 mRNA COVID-19 Vaccine

Characteristics associated with household transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in Ontario, Canada: A cohort study

Within-household transmission of SARS-CoV-2 infection has been identified as one of the main sources of spread of COVID-19 after lockdown restrictions and self-isolation guidelines are implemented.

Megasphaera in the stool microbiota is negatively associated with diarrheal cryptosporidiosis

The protozoan parasites in the Cryptosporidium genus cause both acute diarrheal disease and subclinical (i.e. non-diarrheal) disease. It is unclear if the microbiota can influence the manifestation of diarrhea during a Cryptosporidium infection.

Completion Rate and Safety of Programmatic Screening and Treatment for Latent Tuberculosis Infection in Elderly Patients with Poorly Controlled Diabetic Mellitus: A Prospective Multicenter Study

Poor control of diabetes mellitus (DM) increases active tuberculosis (TB) risk. Understanding risk factors for latent TB infection (LTBI) in this population and intervention completion rates is crucial for policy making.

Emergence of a Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 virus variant with novel genomic architecture in Hong Kong

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, divergent SARS-CoV-2 lineages have emerged continuously, mostly through the genomic accumulation of substitutions. We report the discovery of a SARS-CoV-2 variant with a novel genomic architecture characterized by absent ORF7a, ORF7b and ORF8, and a C-terminally modified ORF6 product resulting from partial 5'-UTR duplication and transposition.

Renewed absence of SARS-CoV-2 infections in the day care context in Berlin, January 2021

Shortening the duration of therapy for Staphylococcus aureus bacteremia: opening the Overton window

Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision: Responding to Brian Morris
TO THE EDITOR—The shortening of survival times of patients living with both human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and human T-cell lymphotropic virus (HTLV-1) is a controversial subject, especially after the widespread introduction of combined antiretroviral therapy (cART) [1, 2]. More recently, Brites et al

Impact of anti-PD-1 and anti-CTLA-4 on the HIV reservoir in people living with HIV with cancer on antiretroviral therapy: The AIDS Malignancy Consortium-095 study

AbstractBackground Antibodies to PD-1 and CTLA-4 may perturb HIV persistence during antiretroviral therapy (ART) by reversing HIV-latency and/or boosting HIV-specific immunity leading to clearance of infected cells. We tested this hypothesis in a clinical trial of anti-PD-1 alone or in combination with anti-CTLA-4 in people living with HIV (PLWH) and cancer

Fine-scale spatio-temporal mapping of asymptomatic and clinical P. falciparum infections: epidemiological evidence for targeted malaria elimination interventions

AbstractBackground A detailed understanding of the contribution of the asymptomatic Plasmodium reservoir to the occurrence of clinical malaria at individual and community levels is needed to guide effective elimination interventions. This study investigated the relationship between asymptomatic P. falciparum carriage and subsequent clinical malaria episodes in Dielmo and Ndiop villages in Senegal

Comparable outcomes of short-course and prolonged-course therapy in selected cases of methicillin-susceptible Staphylococcus aureus bacteremia: A pooled cohort study

AbstractBackground The recommended duration of antimicrobial treatment for Staphylococcus aureus bacteremia (SAB) is a minimum of 14 days. We compared the clinical outcomes of patients receiving short-course (SC), 6-10 days, or prolonged-course (PC), 10-16 days, antibiotic therapy for low risk methicillin-susceptible SAB (MS-SAB)

Salvage Therapy with Sofosbuvir/Velpatasvir/Voxilaprevir in DAA-experienced Patients: Results from a Prospective Canadian Registry

AbstractBackground Despite the current highly effective therapies with direct-acting antiviral agents (DAAs), some patients with chronic hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection still do not achieve sustained virological response (SVR) and require retreatment. Sofosbuvir/velpatasvir/voxilaprevir (SVV) is recommended as the first-line retreatment option for most patients

Factors Associated with Peripartum Virologic Suppression in the Eastern Cape Province, South Africa: A Retrospective Cross-sectional Analysis

AbstractBackground This study describes the characteristics of pregnant women on ART and the rate of peripartum virologic suppression in a large PMTCT cohort who delivered in some selected maternity centres in the Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. In addition, the study examines the factors associated with virologic suppression in the cohort

Targeted antibiotics for trachoma: a cluster-randomized trial

AbstractBackground Current guidelines recommend community-wide mass azithromycin for trachoma, but a targeted treatment strategy could reduce the volume of antibiotics required. Methods: 48 Ethiopian communities were randomized to mass, targeted, or delayed azithromycin distributions
Semiannual Treatment of Albendazole Alone is Efficacious for Treatment of Lymphatic Filariasis: A Randomized Open-label Trial in Cote d'Ivoire

Abstract

Background Ivermectin (IVM) plus albendazole (ALB), or IA, is widely used in mass drug administration (MDA) programs that aim to eliminate lymphatic filariasis (LF) in Africa. However, IVM can cause severe adverse events in persons with heavy Loa loa infections that are common in Central Africa. ALB is safe in loiasis, but more information is needed on its efficacy for LF.

Diagnosing tuberculosis in people with advanced HIV: more is needed

Abstract

Background The urine lipoarabinomannan (LAM) antigen test is a TB diagnostic test with highest sensitivity in individuals with advanced HIV. Its role in TB diagnostic algorithms for HIV positive outpatients remains unclear.

Serological Profiling of Group A Streptococcus Infections in Acute Rheumatic Fever

Abstract

Rheumatic fever is a serious post-infectious sequela of Group A Streptococcus (GAS). Prior GAS exposures were mapped in sera using a large panel of M-type specific peptides. Rheumatic fever patients had serological evidence of significantly more GAS exposures than matched controls suggesting immune priming by repeat infections contributes to pathogenesis.

The impact of the Auckland cellulitis pathway on length of hospital stay, mortality readmission rate, and antibiotic stewardship

Abstract

Background The Dundee classification of cellulitis severity, previously shown to predict disease outcomes, provides an opportunity to improve the management of patients with cellulitis. Methods We developed and implemented a pathway to guide the management of adults with cellulitis based on their Dundee severity class, and measured its effect on patient outcomes.

How to test SARS-CoV-2 vaccines ethically even after one is available

Abstract

Although vaccines against SARS-CoV-2 have now been found safe and efficacious, there remains an urgent global health need to test both these vaccines and additional vaccines against the same virus. Under variable conditions, either standard or unusual designs would for both familiar and often-missed reasons make continued testing possible and ethical.

Changes in SARS CoV-2 Seroprevalence Over Time in Ten Sites in the United States, March – August, 2020

Abstract

Background Monitoring of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) antibody prevalence can complement case reporting to inform more accurate estimates of SARS-CoV-2 infection burden, but few studies have undertaken repeated sampling over time on a broad geographic scale.

Clinical Efficacy of Cefixime for the Treatment of Early Syphilis

Abstract

Safe and efficient alternative treatment options for syphilis are necessary. This randomized, two-arm, non-comparative pilot study evaluated the efficacy of oral cefixime 400 mg in achieving a four-fold or higher RPR titer decrease by 3 or 6-months after treatment. Cure proportion among cefixime arm participants was 87% (95% CI 69%-100%, 13/15).
A 52-Year-Old Man With Uveitis and Altered Mental Status

A 52-year-old white man from the midwestern United States with a past medical history of polycythemia presented with floaters in his right eye. He had no history of trauma or diabetes. He denied headache, fever, arthralgia, abdominal pain, and diarrhea. He did not have any recent travel or risk factors for tuberculosis.

Spontaneous Emergence of Azithromycin Resistance in Independent Lineages of Salmonella Typhi in Northern India

Abstract
Background The emergence and spread of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) pose a major threat to the effective treatment and control of typhoid fever. The ongoing outbreak of extensively drug-resistant Salmonella Typhi (S. Typhi) in Pakistan has left azithromycin as the only remaining broadly efficacious oral antimicrobial for typhoid in South Asia. Ominously, azithromycin-resistant S.

Neurodevelopmental Outcomes of Children Following In Utero Exposure to Zika in Nicaragua

Abstract
Background Neurodevelopmental outcomes of asymptomatic children exposed to Zika virus (ZIKV) in utero are not well characterized.

Methods We prospectively followed 129 newborns without evidence of congenital Zika syndrome (CZS) up to 24 months of age. Participants were classified as ZIKV exposed or ZIKV unexposed.

Corrigendum
27 Jan 2021

Erratum
09 Jan 2021

Erratum to: Epidemiology of Nontuberculous Mycobacteria Infection in Children and Young People With Cystic Fibrosis: Analysis of UK Cystic Fibrosis Registry
04 Jan 2021
Seroprevalence of SARS-CoV-2 in 1922 blood donors from the Lodi Red Zone and adjacent Lodi metropolitan and suburban area
04 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 4 March 2021Source: Clinical Microbiology and InfectionAuthor(s): Irene Cassaniti, Elena Percivalle, Antonella Sarasini, Giuseppe Cambiè, Edoardo Vecchio Nepita, Roberta Maserati, Alessandro Ferrari, Alfonso Corcione, Raffaella Di Martino, Alice Bonetti, Annapia Di Napoli, Guglielmo Ferrari, Fausto Baldanti

SARS CoV-2 infections in health care workers with pre-existing T cell response: a prospective cohort study
03 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 2 March 2021Source: Clinical Microbiology and InfectionAuthor(s): José L. Casado, Johannes Häemmerle, Pilar Vizcarra, Hector Velasco, Tamara Velasco, Marina Fernandez-Escribano, Alejandro Vallejo

Pulmonary long-term consequences of COVID-19 infections after hospital discharge
02 Mar 2021

Factors associated with coinfections in invasive aspergillosis: a retrospective cohort study
02 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 2 March 2021Source: Clinical Microbiology and InfectionAuthor(s): François Danion, Céline Duval, François Séverac, Philippe Bachellier, Ermanno Candolfi, Vincent Castelain, Raphaël Clere-Jehl, Julie Denis, Laurence Dillenseger, Eric Epailly, Justine Gantzer, Blandine Guffroy, Yves Hansmann, Jean-Etienne Herbrecht, Valérie Letscher-Bru, Pierre Leyendecker,
Current Opinion in Virology

Sending mixed signals: polyomavirus entry and trafficking

07 Mar 2021
Publication date: April 2021Source: Current Opinion in Virology, Volume 47Author(s): Colleen L Mayberry, Avery CS Bond, Michael P Wilczek, Kashif Mehmood, Melissa S Maginnis

Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious Disease

Post-Exposure Prophylaxis with Single-Dose Doxycycline is Effective for Prevention of Lyme Disease in Both the United States and Europe and is also Effective for Prevention of Syphilis and Tick-Borne Relapsing Fever

04 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 4 March 2021Source: Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious DiseaseAuthor(s): Gary P. Wormser, Stephen Warshafsky, Paul Visintainer

LRINEC in Diabetic Foot Infections. Comments on Sen P, Durmidal T. Predictive ability of LRINEC score in the prediction of limb loss and mortality in diabetic foot infection

04 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 4 March 2021Source: Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious DiseaseAuthor(s): Javier Aragón-Sánchez, Gerardo Viquez-Molina, María Eugenia López-Valverde

Caution in interpretation of SARS-CoV-2 quantification based on RT-PCR cycle threshold value

04 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 4 March 2021Source: Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious DiseaseAuthor(s): Aurélie Schnuriger, Marine Perrier, Valérie Marinho, Yanne Michel, Kenda Saloum, Narjis Boukli, Sidonie Lambert-Niclot, Corinne Amiel, Djeneba Bocar Fofana, Joël Gozlan, Laurence Morand-Joubert

Plasma as an alternative COVID-19 diagnostic specimen in a hospitalized patient negative for SARS-CoV-2 by Nasopharyngeal Swab

04 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 4 March 2021Source: Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious DiseaseAuthor(s): Lauren Lawrence, Bryan A. Stevens, Malaya K. Sahoo, ChunHong Huang, Fumiko Yamamoto, Katharina Röltgen, Oliver Wirz, James Zehnder, Run-Zhang Shi, Scott D. Boyd, Gary Schoolnik, Benjamin A. Pinsky, Catherine A. Hogan

Emerging Infectious Diseases Journal - ahead of print


04 Mar 2021
Z. Yang et al.

Emergence of Burkholderia pseudomallei Sequence Type 562, Northern Australia

04 Mar 2021
E. M. Meumann et al.
Evolution of Sequence Type 4821 Clonal Complex Hyperinvasive and Quinolone-Resistant Meningococci
04 Mar 2021
M. Chen et al.

04 Mar 2021
M. Shrotri et al.

Prevalence and Clinical Profile of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 Infection among Farmworkers, California, June–November 2020
03 Mar 2021
J. A. Lewnard et al.

Novel Mutation of SARS-CoV-2, Vietnam, July 2020
01 Mar 2021
H. Phuong et al.

European Journal of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases

Comparison of clinical characteristics and outcomes between respiratory syncytial virus and influenza-related pneumonia in China from 2013 to 2019
06 Mar 2021
Abstract This study aims to compare clinical characteristics and severity between adults with respiratory syncytial virus (RSV-p) and influenza-related pneumonia (Flu-p). A total of 127 patients with RSV-p, 693 patients with influenza A-related pneumonia (FluA-p), and 386 patients with influenza B-related pneumonia (FluB-p) were retrospectively reviewed from 2013 through 2019 in five teaching hospitals.

The use of multi-pronged screening strategy to understand the epidemiology of carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae in Hong Kong: transition from epidemic to endemic setting
05 Mar 2021
Abstract A multi-pronged carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE) screening strategy was implemented in Hong Kong West healthcare network. Of 199,192 fecal specimens from 77,194 patients screening from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2019, the incidence of CPE per 1000 patient admission significantly increased from 0.01 (2012) to 1.9 (2018) (p<0.01)

Therapeutic efficacy of chitosan nanoparticles loaded with BCG-polysaccharide nucleic acid and ovalbumin on airway inflammation in asthmatic mice
05 Mar 2021
Abstract In this study, immunoregulation and desensitization therapies were jointly applied in the treatment of asthma, in which chitosan (CS) nanoparticles were used. BALB/c mice were selected and mouse models of asthma were constructed. Mice were divided into 7 groups. A double-chamber plethysmograph, MTT, hematoxylin-eosin staining, and ELISA were used to assess the therapeutic efficacy.

The Unyvero Hospital-Acquired pneumonia panel for diagnosis of secondary bacterial pneumonia in COVID-19 patients
04 Mar 2021
Abstract The study was undertaken to evaluate the performance of Unyvero Hospitalized Pneumonia (HPN) panel application, a multiplex PCR-based method for the detection of bacterial pathogens from lower respiratory tract (LRT) samples, obtained from COVID-19 patients with suspected secondary hospital-acquired pneumonia.
The recent characteristics of influenza-related hospitalization in Japanese children

04 Mar 2021

Abstract We investigated the recent epidemiology and characteristics of influenza-related hospitalization in Japanese children. This study included 3741 children with influenza. Children hospitalized for febrile seizures (FS) induced by etiologies other than influenza also served as a disease control. Most outpatients (92%

Automated Western immunoblotting detection of anti-SARS-CoV-2 serum antibodies

03 Mar 2021

Abstract ELISA and chemiluminescence serological assays for COVID-19 are currently incorporating only one or two SARS-CoV-2 antigens. We developed an automated Western immunoblotting as a complementary serologic assay for COVID-19.

Risk factors for enterococcal urinary tract infections: a multinational, retrospective cohort study

02 Mar 2021

Abstract Complicated urinary tract infection (cUTI) is a frequent cause of morbidity. In this multinational retrospective cohort study, we aimed to demonstrate risk factors for enterococcal UTI. Univariate and multivariate analyses of risk factors for enterococcal infection were performed. Among 791 hospitalized patients with cUTI, enterococci accounted for approximately 10% of cases (78/791).

Multinational evaluation of the BioFire® FilmArray® Pneumonia plus Panel as compared to standard of care testing

02 Mar 2021

Abstract This study compared standard of care testing (SOC) to BioFire® FilmArray® Pneumonia plus Panel (PNplus). PNplus detects 15 bacteria with semiquantitative log bin values, 7 antibiotic resistance markers, three atypical bacteria (AB), and eight viral classes directly from bronchoalveolar lavage-like specimens (BLS) and sputum-like specimens (SLS).

Eurosurveillance latest updates

Incidence of COVID-19 in patients exposed to chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine: results from a population-based prospective cohort in Catalonia, Spain, 2020

04 Mar 2021

Background Several clinical trials have assessed the protective potential of chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine. Chronic exposure to such drugs might lower the risk of infection with severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) or severe coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

Economic evaluation of whole genome sequencing for pathogen identification and surveillance – results of case studies in Europe and the Americas 2016 to 2019

04 Mar 2021

Background Whole genome sequencing (WGS) is increasingly used for pathogen identification and surveillance. Aim We evaluated costs and benefits of routine WGS through case studies at eight reference laboratories in Europe and the Americas which conduct pathogen surveillance for avian influenza (two laboratories), human influenza (one laboratory) and food-borne pathogens (five laboratories).

High impact of molecular surveillance on hepatitis A outbreak case detection in Sweden: a retrospective study, 2009 to 2018

04 Mar 2021

Background Swedish hepatitis A surveillance includes sequence-based typing, but its contribution to outbreak detection in relation to epidemiological investigations has not been
fully evaluated. Aim To evaluate the role of sequence-based typing in hepatitis A outbreak detection and to describe the hepatitis A epidemiology in Sweden to improve surveillance

Early assessment of diffusion and possible expansion of SARS-CoV-2 Lineage 20I/501Y.V1 (B.1.1.7, variant of concern 202012/01) in France, January to March 2021

04 Mar 2021
The emergence of SARS-CoV-2 variant 20I/501Y.V1 (VOC-202012/1 or GR/501Y.V1) is concerning given its increased transmissibility. We reanalysed 11,916 PCR-positive tests (41% of all positive tests) performed on 7–8 January 2021 in France. The prevalence of 20I/501Y.V1 was 3.3% among positive tests nationwide and 6.9% in the Paris region. Analysing the recent rise in the prevalence of 20I/501Y

I Infection

The presenting characteristics of erythema migrans vary by age, sex, duration, and body location

07 Mar 2021
Abstract Purpose The erythema migrans (EM) skin lesion is often the first clinical sign of Lyme disease. Significant variability in EM presenting characteristics such as shape, color, pattern, and homogeneity, has been reported

Pooled saliva samples as an approach to reduce the spread of infections with SARS-CoV-2

06 Mar 2021
Clinical and epidemiological data of COVID-19 from Regensburg, Germany: a retrospective analysis of 1084 consecutive cases

05 Mar 2021
Abstract Background COVID-19 is a syndrome caused by the recently emerged SARS-CoV-2. We collected clinical and epidemiologic data in an almost complete cohort of SARS-CoV-2 positive individuals from Regensburg, Germany, from March 2020 to May 2020

COVID-19 anosmia and gustatory symptoms as a prognosis factor: a subanalysis of the HOPE COVID-19 (Health Outcome Predictive Evaluation for COVID-19) registry

01 Mar 2021
Abstract Olfactory and gustatory dysfunctions (OGD) are a frequent symptom of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). It has been proposed that the neuroinvasive potential of the novel SARS-CoV-2 could be due to olfactory bulb invasion, conversely studies suggest it could be a good prognostic factor. The aim of the current study was to investigate the prognosis value of OGD in COVID-19

The current therapeutical strategies in human brucellosis

01 Mar 2021
Abstract Prompt and adequate treatment of human brucellosis continues to be the most important strategy in its management, as eradication of animal brucellosis is not possible so far, and there is no adequate vaccine for humans. The goal of antibrucellar treatment is to alleviate and shorten the symptomatic period and reduce complications, relapses, and chronicity

International Journal of Medical Microbiology

Establishing causality in Salmonella-microbiota-host interaction: the use of gnotobiotic mouse models and synthetic microbial communities

03 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 2 March 2021Source: International Journal of Medical MicrobiologyAuthor(s): Bärbel Stecher
Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology - FirstView Article

Barriers and facilitators to influenza-like illness absenteeism among healthcare workers in a tertiary-care healthcare system, 2017–2018 influenza season
02 Mar 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:
Concordance of antibiotic prescribing with the American Dental Association acute oral infection guidelines within Veterans’ Affairs (VA) dentistry
02 Mar 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:
Is a reduction in viability enough to determine biofilm susceptibility to a biocide?
02 Mar 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:
Recovery efficiency of two glove-sampling methods
02 Mar 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:
Postextraction infection and antibiotic prescribing among veterans receiving dental extractions
02 Mar 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:
Wither proper evaluation of falls for coexisting systemic infections?
02 Mar 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:
Outbreak of hepatitis B and hepatitis C virus infections associated with a cardiology clinic, West Virginia, 2012–2014
01 Mar 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:
19 Feb 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:

International Journal of Infectious Diseases

Palliative care in a COVID-19 Internal Medicine ward: A preliminary report
07 Mar 2021
Publication date: April 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases, Volume 105Author(s): Nicola Mumoli, Clarissa Florian, Marco Cei, Isabella Evangelista, Alessandra Colombo, Giancarlo Razionale, Luca Moroni, Antonino Mazzone
Neuropsychiatric toxicity and cycloserine concentrations during treatment for multidrug-resistant tuberculosis
07 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 5 March 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious DiseasesAuthor(s): Richard Court, Chad M. Centner, Maxwell Chirehwa, Lubbe Wiesner, Paolo Denti, Nihal de Vries, Joseph Harding, Tawanda Gumbo, Gary Maartens, Helen McIlrion
In-house crowding on childhood hospital admissions for acute respiratory infection: A matched case-control study in Bangladesh
07 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 5 March 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious DiseasesAuthor(s): Moktarul Islam, Zeeba Zahra Sultana, Adiba Iqbal, Mohammad Ali, Ahmed Hossain

Infection sustained by lineage B.1.1.7 of SARS-CoV-2 is characterised by longer persistence and higher viral RNA loads in nasopharyngeal swabs
07 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 5 March 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious DiseasesAuthor(s): Paolo Calistri, Laura Amato, Ilaria Puglia, Francesca Cito, Alessandra Di Giuseppe, Maria Luisa Danzetta, Daniela Morelli, Marco Di Domenico, Marialuigia Caporale, Silvia Scialabba, Ottavio Portanti, Valentina Curini, Fabrizia Perletta, Cesare Cammà, Massimo Ancora, Giovanni Savini

Incidence and impact of low-level viremia among people living with HIV who received protease inhibitor- or dolutegravir-based antiretroviral therapy
07 Mar 2021
Publication date: April 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases, Volume 105Author(s): Guan-Jhou Chen, Hsin-Yun Sun, Sui-Yuan Chang, Aristine Cheng, Yu-Shan Huang, Sung-Hsi Huang, Yi-Chia Huang, Yi-Ching Su, Wen-Chun Liu, Chien-Ching Hung

Peripheral neuropathy due to neuroborreliosis: Insensitivity for CXCL13 as early diagnostic marker
07 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 5 March 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious DiseasesAuthor(s): Kristina Gubanova, Julia Lang, Juliane Latzko, Bianka Novotna, Julian Perneczky, Stefan Pingitzer, Petra Purser, Bianca Wuchty, Christoph Waiß, Johann Sellner

Comparative evaluation of four SARS-CoV-2 antigen tests in hospitalized patients
07 Mar 2021
Publication date: April 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases, Volume 105Author(s): Lis Thommes, Francesco Robert Burkert, Karla-Wanda Öttl, David Goldin, Lorin Loacker, Lukas Lanser, Andrea Griesmacher, Igor Theurl, Günter Weiss, Rosa Bellmann-Weiler

Main Differences Between the First and Second Waves of COVID-19 in Madrid, Spain
07 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 5 March 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious DiseasesAuthor(s): Vicente Soriano, Pilar Ganado-Pinilla, Miguel Sanchez-Santos, Felix Gómez-Gallego, Pablo Barreiro, Carmen de Mendoza, Octavio Corral

Bilateral cotton wool spots after ambulatory COVID-19
07 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 5 March 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious DiseasesAuthor(s): Alison X. Chan, Michele Ritter, Mathieu F. Bakhoum

Risk of chronic arthralgia and impact of pain on daily activities in a cohort of patients with chikungunya virus infection from Brazil
07 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 5 March 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious DiseasesAuthor(s): Monaíse M.O. Silva, Mariana Kikutti, Rosângela O. Anjos, Moyna M. Portilho, Viviane C. Santos, Thaiza S.F. Gonçalves, Laura B. Tauro, Patrícia S.S. Moreira, Leile C. Jacob-Nascimento, Perla M. Santana, Gúbio S. Campos, André M. Siqueira, Uriel Kitron, Mitermayer G. Reis, Guilherme S

The effect of probiotics on respiratory tract infection with special emphasis on COVID-19: Systemic review 2010–20
Antibiotic stewardship in direct-to-consumer telemedicine consultations leads to high adherence to best practice guidelines and a low prescription rate.

Chikungunya virus ECSA lineage reintroduction in the northeasternmost region of Brazil.

Multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS-C) in an adolescent Nigerian girl with COVID-19: A call for vigilance in Africa.

Tuberculosis among children and adolescents in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil – Focus on extrapulmonary disease.

Tuberculosis in persons with sudden unexpected death, in Cape Town, South Africa.

The global prevalence of Thrombocytopenia among HIV infected adults: A systematic Review and Meta-analysis.

A score combining early detection of cytokines accurately predicts COVID-19 severity and intensive care unit transfer: If early cytokine score results are available and to compare with existing severity scores and CT scan observations.

Seroprevalence of Scrub Typhus, Murine Typhus and Spotted Fever Group in North Korean Refugees.
Factors and virological significance of hepatitis B virus pregenomic RNA after 5 years of antiviral therapy
04 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 3 March 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious DiseasesAuthor(s): Jihye Um, Yeonghwa Nam, Ji Na Lim, Misuk Kim, Yeonsu An, Se Hee Hwang, Jun-Sun Park

Risk and predictive factors of prolonged viral RNA shedding in upper respiratory specimens in a large cohort of COVID-19 patients admitted in an Italian Reference Hospital
04 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 3 March 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious DiseasesAuthor(s): Jiali Pan, Jinghang Xu, Hao Luo, Ning Tan, Qian Kang, Hongyu Chen, Ran Cheng, Yifan Han, Yuqing Yang, Xiaoyuan Xu

Transmitted drug resistance among HIV-1 drug-naïve patients in Greece
03 Mar 2021
Publication date: April 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases, Volume 105Author(s): Maria Kantzanou, Maria A. Karalexi, Helen Papachristou, Alexis Vasilakis, Chrysoula Rokka, Antigoni Katsoulidou

Clonal lineages and antimicrobial resistance of nonencapsulated Streptococcus pneumoniae in the post-pneumococcal conjugate vaccine era in Japan
03 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 3 March 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious DiseasesAuthor(s): Mitsuyo Kawaguchiya, Noriko Urushibara, Meiji Soe Aung, Kenji Kudo, Masahiko Ito, Ayako Sumi, Nobumichi Kobayashi

Genomic epidemiological analysis identifies high relapse among individuals with recurring tuberculosis and provides evidence of household recent TB transmission in Ghana
03 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 2 March 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious DiseasesAuthor(s): Prince Asare, Stephen Osei-Wusu, Nyonuku Akosua Badoo, Edmund Bedeley, Isaac Darko Otchere, Daniela Brites, Chloé Loiseau, Adwoa Asante-Poku, Diana Ahu Prah, Sonia Borrell, Miriam Reinhard, Michael Amo Omari, Audrey Forson, Kwadwo Ansa Koram, Sebastien Gagneux, Dorothy Yeboah-Manu

The Prognostic Performance of Troponin in COVID-19: A Diagnostic Meta-analysis and Meta-regression
03 Mar 2021
Publication date: Available online 2 March 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious DiseasesAuthor(s): Arief Wibowo, Raymond Pranata, Mohammad Rizki Akbar, Augustine Purnomowati, Januar Wibawa Martha

Identification of potential novel hosts and the risk of infection of lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus in humans in Gabon, Central Africa
03 Mar 2021

CCR5Δ32 mutations do not determine COVID-19 disease course
A host-based two-gene model for the identification of bacterial infection in general clinical settings

Dynamical characteristics of the COVID-19 epidemic: Estimation from cases in Colombia

Burden of invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD) over a 10-year period in Bogotá, Colombia

Evaluation of three rapid lateral flow antigen detection tests for the diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection

Performance evaluation of the fully automated molecular system Alinity m in a high-throughput central laboratory

Head-to-head comparison of two rapid high-throughput automated electrochemiluminescence immunoassays targeting total antibodies to the SARS-CoV-2 nucleoprotein and spike protein receptor binding domain

Prospective evaluation of hepatitis C virus antibody detection in whole blood collected on dried blood spots with the INNOTEST® HCV Ab IV enzyme immunoassay

Handling and accuracy of four rapid antigen tests for the diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 compared to RT-qPCR

Infection control challenges in handling recurrent blockage of sewage pipes in isolation facility designated for COVID-19 patients
Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), as a causative agent of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), has been identified in stool samples by reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) in 48% of COVID-19 patients with a median faecal viral load of 5.1 log10 and 3.9 log10 copies/mL in patients with or without diarrhoea, respectively.

“Seconds save lives – clean your hands”: the 5 May 2021 World Health Organization SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands campaign
07 Mar 2021
The authors alone are responsible for the views expressed in this article; it does not necessarily represent the views, decisions or policies of the institutions with which they are affiliated.

A machine learning approach to predict healthcare-associated infections at intensive care unit admission: findings from the SPIN-UTI project
04 Mar 2021
Identifying patients at higher risk of healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) in intensive care unit (ICU) represents a major challenge for public health. Machine learning could improve patient risk stratification and lead to targeted infection prevention and control interventions.

Journal of Infection
Lack of significant association between dyslipidemia and COVID-19 mortality
05 Mar 2021
Recently, Aung et al reported that distribution frequency of angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) insertion/insertion (II) genotype had a significant impact on coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) mortality.

Disproportionate impact of SARS-CoV-2 on ethnic minority and frontline healthcare workers: A cross-sectional seroprevalence survey at a North London hospital
03 Mar 2021
We read with interest the study by de Lusignan et al, who found that, among 1,970,314 UK primary care patients aged ≥ 45 years, being male, increasing age, chronic disease, Black ethnicity and deprivation were associated with excess mortality during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Use of lateral flow devices allows rapid triage of patients with SARS-CoV-2 on admission to hospital
28 Feb 2021
We read with interest the case that Fowler et al make for robust near patient testing in the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) pandemic to identify contagious cases. The winter peak of Covid-19 in England has seen the highest number of Covid-19 cases and hospital admissions to date, with over 3,000 admissions daily, and a peak of 34,015 inpatients with Covid-19.

SARS-CoV-2 was already in circulation in Northern Cyprus in the prepandemic period
28 Feb 2021
We read with interest the study by Zhen et al, showing that there was co-infection of SARS-CoV-2 and influenza virus in the early stages of COVID-19 in Wuhan, China. Symptoms of COVID-19 are similar to influenza-like illness in which both diseases are characterized by high fever, cough, myalgia and headache.

Journal of Infection Prevention

Journal of Virology: Articles Published Ahead of Print

T cell epitope screening of Epstein-Barr virus fusion protein gB [Pathogenesis and Immunity]

Glycoprotein B (gB) is an essential fusion protein for the Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) infection of both B cells and epithelial cells and is thus a promising target antigen for a prophylactic vaccine to prevent or reduce EBV-associated disease. T cell responses play key roles in the control of persistent EBV infection and in the efficacy of a vaccine.

Initial HCV infection of adult hepatocytes triggers a temporally structured transcriptional program containing diverse pro- and anti-viral elements [Cellular Response to Infection]

Transcriptional profiling provides global snapshots of virus-mediated cellular reprogramming, which can simultaneously encompass pro- and antiviral components. To determine early transcriptional signatures associated with HCV infection of authentic target cells, we performed ex vivo infections of adult primary human hepatocytes (PHHs) from seven donors.

Guinea pig cytomegalovirus protective T cell antigen GP83 is a functional pp65 homolog for innate immune evasion and pentamer dependent virus tropism [Pathogenesis and Immunity]

The guinea pig is the only small animal model for congenital CMV but requires species-specific guinea pig cytomegalovirus (GPCMV). Tegument protein GP83 is the presumed homolog of HCMV pp65 but gene duplication in the UL82-UL84 homolog locus in various animal CMV made it unclear if GP83 was a functional homolog.

TLR3 activation by Zika virus stimulates inflammatory cytokine production which dampens the antiviral response induced by RIG-I-like receptors [Pathogenesis and Immunity]

Infection with the Zika virus (ZIKV), a member of the Flaviviridae family, can cause serious neurological disorders, most notably microcephaly in newborns. Here we investigated the innate immune response to ZIKV infection in cells of the nervous system.

People with HIV-1 demonstrate type 1 interferon refractoriness associated with upregulated USP18 [Cellular Response to Infection]

HIV-1 infection persists in humans despite expression of antiviral type 1 interferons (IFN). Even exogenous administration of IFNα only marginally reduces HIV-1 abundance, raising the hypothesis that people living with HIV-1 (PLWH) are refractory to type 1 IFN.

The reovirus {mu}2 C-terminal loop inversely regulates NTPase and transcription functions versus binding to factory-forming {mu}NS and promotes replication in tumorigenic cells. [Virus-Cell Interactions]

Wild type reovirus serotype 3 'Dearing PL strain' (T3wt) is being heavily evaluated as an oncolytic and immunotherapeutic treatment for cancers. Mutations that promote reovirus entry into tumor cells were previously reported to enhance oncolysis; herein we aimed to discover mutations that enhance the post-entry steps of reovirus infection in tumor cells.
Effects of Altering HSPG Binding and Capsid Hydrophilicity on Retinal Transduction by AAV [Gene Delivery]
03 Mar 2021
Adeno-associated viruses (AAVs) have recently emerged as the leading vector for retinal gene therapy. However, AAV vectors which are capable of achieving clinically relevant levels of transgene expression and widespread retinal transduction are still an unmet need.

Interaction of NEP with G Protein Pathway Suppressor 2 Facilitates Influenza A Virus Replication by Weakening the Inhibition of GPS2 to RNA Synthesis and Ribonucleoprotein Assembly [Virus-Cell Interactions]
03 Mar 2021
The nuclear export protein (NEP) serves multiple functions in the life cycle of influenza A virus (IAV). Identifying novel host proteins that interact with NEP and understanding their functions in IAV replication are of great interest.

New SHIVs and Improved Design Strategy for Modeling HIV-1 Transmission, Immunopathogenesis, Prevention and Cure [Pathogenesis and Immunity]
03 Mar 2021
Previously, we showed that substitution of HIV-1 Env residue 375-Ser by bulky aromatic residues enhances binding to rhesus CD4 and enables primary HIV-1 Envs to support efficient replication as simian-human immunodeficiency virus (SHIV) chimeras in rhesus macaques (RMs).

Virion structure and in vitro genome release mechanism of dicistrovirus Kashmir bee virus [Structure and Assembly]
03 Mar 2021
Infections of Kashmir bee virus (KBV) are lethal for honeybees and have been associated with colony collapse disorder. KBV and closely related viruses contribute to the ongoing decline in the number of honeybee colonies in North America, Europe, Australia, and other parts of the world. Despite the economic and ecological impact of KBV, its structure and infection process remain unknown.

Engineered influenza virions reveal the contributions of non-hemagglutinin structural proteins to vaccine mediated protection [Vaccines and Antiviral Agents]
03 Mar 2021
The development of improved and universal anti-influenza vaccines would represent a major advance in the protection of human health. In order to facilitate the development of such vaccines, understanding how viral proteins can contribute to protection from disease is critical. Much of the previous work to address these questions relied on reductionist systems (i.e.

Segment-specific kinetics of mRNA, cRNA and vRNA accumulation during influenza infection [Genome Replication and Regulation of Viral Gene Expression]
03 Mar 2021
Influenza A virus (IAV) is a segmented negative-sense RNA virus and is the cause of major epidemics and pandemics. The replication of IAV is complex, involving the production of three distinct RNA species; mRNA, cRNA, and vRNA for all eight genome segments.

Mechanism of Nuclear Lamina Disruption and the Role of pUS3 in HSV-1 Nuclear Egress [Structure and Assembly]
03 Mar 2021
Herpes simplex virus capsid envelopment at the nuclear membrane is coordinated by nuclear egress complex (NEC) proteins, pUL34 and pUL31, and is accompanied by alteration in the nuclear architecture and local disruption of nuclear lamina. Here, we examined the role of capsid envelopment in the changes of the nuclear architecture by characterizing HSV-1 recombinants that do not form capsids.
Potent Neutralization of SARS-CoV-2 by Hetero-bivalent Alpaca Nanobodies Targeting the Spike Receptor-Binding Domain [Vaccines and Antiviral Agents]

03 Mar 2021
Cell entry by SARS-CoV-2 requires the binding between the receptor-binding domain (RBD) of the viral Spike protein and the cellular angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 (ACE2). As such, RBD has become the major target for vaccine development, while RBD-specific antibodies are pursued as therapeutics.

Epstein-Barr Virus-Encoded Latent Membrane Protein 2A Downregulates GCNT3 via the TGF-β1/Smad-mTORC1 Signaling Axis [Virus-Cell Interactions]

03 Mar 2021
Increasing evidence shows that Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) infection is closely related to various lymphoid and epithelial malignancies. However, the underlying mechanisms are unclear. GCNT3 (core β1,6-acetylglucosaminyltransferase) is a new type of core mucin synthase, and its expression in EBV-associated gastric cancer (EBVaGC) is lower than that in EBV-negative gastric cancer (EBVnGC).

Genomic characterization of a novel SARS-CoV-2 lineage from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil [Letters to the Editor]

01 Mar 2021
Almost simultaneously, several studies reported the emergence of novel SARS-CoV-2 lineages characterized by their phylogenetic and genetic distinction (1), (2), (3), (4)....

Lancet


05 Mar 2021
Vaccines to prevent COVID-19 infection are crucial for an effective global pandemic response. In The Lancet, Merryn Voysey and colleagues report the updated primary efficacy results for the Oxford–AstraZeneca ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 (AZD1222) vaccine from three single-blind, randomised controlled trials in the UK and Brazil and one double-blind study in South Africa.

Microbiology and Molecular Biology Reviews: Current Issue

Correction for Poggi and Richard, "Alternative DNA Structures In Vivo: Molecular Evidence and Remaining Questions" [Author Correction]

03 Mar 2021

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

EARLY RELEASE: Association of State-Issued Mask Mandates and Allowing On-Premises Restaurant Dining with County-Level COVID-19 Case and Death Growth Rates - United States, March 1-December 31, 2020

05 Mar 2021
This report describes changes in COVID-19 case and death growth rates associated with mask mandates and on-premises restaurant dining.
Prevalence of Electronic Cigarette Use Among Adult Workers - United States, 2017-2018
04 Mar 2021
This report describes e-cigarette use among adult workers aged 18-24 years.

SARS-CoV-2 Infection Risk Among Active Duty Military Members Deployed to a Field Hospital - New York City, April 2020
04 Mar 2021
This report describes rates of COVID-19 infection among U.S. military personnel deployed to a New York City field hospital.

Estimated SARS-CoV-2 Seroprevalence Among Persons Aged <18 Years - Mississippi, May-September 2020
04 Mar 2021
This report describes trends in SARS-CoV-2 antibody seroprevalence among young persons in Mississippi during the COVID-19 pandemic.

SURVEILLANCE SUMMARIES: Surveillance for West Nile Virus Disease - United States, 2009-2018
04 Mar 2021
This report describes surveillance data for West Nile virus during 2009-2018.

Giardiasis Outbreaks - United States, 2012-2017
04 Mar 2021
This report describes giardiasis outbreaks in 26 states

QuickStats: Percentage of Adults In Fair or Poor Health, by Age Group and Race and Ethnicity - National Health Interview Survey, United States, 2019
04 Mar 2021
This report describes the percentage of adults in fair or poor health by demographics.

EARLY RELEASE: First Identified Cases of SARS-CoV-2 Variant P.1 in the United States - Minnesota, January 2021
03 Mar 2021
This report describes the first two U.S. cases of the SARS-CoV-2 variant P.1, which were identified in Minnesota.

EARLY RELEASE: Travel from the United Kingdom to the United States by a Symptomatic Patient Infected with the SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7 Variant - Texas, January 2021
03 Mar 2021
This report describes findings of a SARS-CoV-2 variant, B.1.17, identified first in the United Kingdom, now in Texas.

EARLY RELEASE: The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' Interim Recommendation for Use of Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine - United States, February 2021
02 Mar 2021
This report describes the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' (ACIP's) interim recommendation for use of the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine for the prevention of COVID-19.

Nature Reviews Microbiology - Current Issue

A new general mechanism of AMR
03 Mar 2021
Nature Reviews Microbiology, Published online: 03 March 2021; doi:10.1038/s41579-021-00539-2 This study uncovered mutations in core metabolic genes that confer resistance to antimicrobials in clinically relevant pathogens, suggesting that metabolic adaptation may represent a new general mechanism of antimicrobial resistance in bacteria.

Pan-serotype antiviral for dengue infection
This study identifies a promising preclinical candidate for the treatment of Dengue virus infection.

New England Journal of Medicine - Current Issue

A Randomized Trial of Albumin Infusions in Hospitalized Patients with Cirrhosis

An Uncertain Public — Encouraging Acceptance of Covid-19 Vaccines

Open Schools, Covid-19, and Child and Teacher Morbidity in Sweden

Scandinavian Journal of Infectious Diseases: Table of Contents

Central pulmonary embolism in patients with Covid-19

Delays in lumbar puncture are independently associated with mortality in cryptococcal meningitis: a nationwide study

Pneumocystis jirovecii pneumonia in an immunocompetent patient recovered from COVID-19

Sexually Transmitted Infection Online First

Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on STIs in Greece

Assessing the costs and outcomes of control programmes for sexually transmitted infections: a systematic review of economic evaluations

NIS Affiliation
Molecular Diversity of Giardia duodenalis, Cryptosporidium spp., and Blastocystis sp. in Symptomatic and Asymptomatic Schoolchildren in Zambézia Province (Mozambique)

06 Mar 2021

Infections by the protist enteroparasites Giardia duodenalis, Cryptosporidium spp., and, to a much lesser extent, Blastocystis sp. are common causes of childhood diarrhoea in low-income countries. This molecular epidemiological study assesses the frequency and molecular diversity of these pathogens in faecal samples from asymptomatic schoolchildren (n = 807) and symptomatic children seeking care.

Multilocus Genotyping of Giardia duodenalis in Mostly Asymptomatic Indigenous People from the Tapirapé Tribe, Brazilian Amazon

06 Mar 2021

Little information is available on the occurrence and genetic variability of the diarrhoea-causing enteric protozoan parasite Giardia duodenalis in indigenous communities in Brazil. This cross-sectional epidemiological survey describes the frequency, genotypes, and risk associations for this pathogen in Tapirapé people (Brazilian Amazon) at four sampling campaigns during 2008-2009.

Long-term exposure to octenidine in a simulated sink-trap environment results in selection of Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Citrobacter and Enterobacter isolates with mutations in efflux pump regulators

06 Mar 2021

Octenidine based disinfection products are becoming increasingly popular for infection control of multidrug resistant (MDR) Gram-negative isolates. When a waste trap was removed from a hospital and allowed to acclimatise in a standard tap rig in our laboratory, it was shown that Klebsiella pneumoniae, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Citrobacter and Enterobacter spp. were readily isolated.

Robust SARS-CoV-2-specific T cell immunity is maintained at 6 months following primary infection

06 Mar 2021

The immune response to SARS-CoV-2 is critical in controlling disease, but there is concern that waning immunity may predispose to reinfection. We analyzed the magnitude and phenotype of the SARS-CoV-2-specific T cell response in 100 donors at 6 months following infection.

Clinical and occupational health management of healthcare workers living with chronic hepatitis B: UK policy and international comparisons

05 Mar 2021

Hepatitis B virus (HBV) is a highly infectious blood-borne virus, which remains endemic in large geographic areas and represents a major global healthcare challenge. HBV transmission from healthcare workers, who perform exposure prone procedures (EPP), to patients is a recognised transmission risk, which varies widely globally.

Time series analysis and mechanistic modelling of heterogeneity and sero-reversion in antibody responses to mild SARS-CoV-2 infection

04 Mar 2021

BACKGROUND: SARS-CoV-2 serology is used to identify prior infection at individual and at population level. Extended longitudinal studies with multi-timepoint sampling to evaluate dynamic changes in antibody levels are required to identify the time horizon in which these applications of serology are valid, and to explore the longevity of protective humoral immunity.

Risk of symptomatic COVID-19 due to aircraft transmission: a retrospective cohort study of contact-traced flights during England’s containment phase

02 Mar 2021
CONCLUSION: We conclude that risk of symptomatic COVID-19 due to transmission on short to medium-haul flights is low, and recommend prioritising contact-tracing of close contacts and co-travellers where resources are limited. Further research on risk on aircraft is encouraged.

Utility of whole genome sequencing during an investigation of multiple foodborne outbreaks of Shigella sonnei
01 Mar 2021
No abstract

Antibody response to first BNT162b2 dose in previously SARS-CoV-2-infected individuals
28 Feb 2021
No abstract

SARS-CoV-2 infections in children following the full re-opening of schools and the impact of national lockdown: prospective, national observational cohort surveillance, July-December 2020, England
27 Feb 2021
CONCLUSIONS: In school-aged children, SARS-CoV-2 infections followed the same trajectory as adult cases and only declined after national lockdown was implemented whilst keeping schools open. Maintaining low community infection rates is critical for keeping schools open during the pandemic.

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