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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COVID-19 related research

COVID-19 infection

To Test or Not to Test: COVID-19 Prevention Strategies to Keep Large Gatherings Safe
20 Jul 2021
Annals of Internal Medicine, Ahead of Print.

Infection-related guidance

Infectious Diseases Society of America

In an Aug. 16 letter, IDSA and other organizations representing the nation’s infection preventionists, called on U.S. governors to set aside their differences and support necessary public health measures to protect Americans from COVID-19. Read the Letter:
https://t.co/cxdDm6jU6q https://t.co/KSmDXIWFyl
18 Aug 2021
In an Aug. 16 letter, IDSA and other organizations representing the nation’s infection preventionists, called on U.S. governors to set aside their differences and support necessary public health measures to protect Americans from COVID-19. Read the Letter:

Royal College of General Practitioners

College hits back at media criticism over face-to-face appointments
20 Aug 2021
The College is quoted in a story in today’s Telegraph, criticising GPs on face to face appointments for patients. You can read our statement in full here: Professor Martin Marshall, Chair of the Royal College of GPs, said: “We understand – and share - patients’ frustrations when they can’t get a GP appointment or face long waiting times to get through to the surgery, but it’s a misconception that

College sets record straight on face-to-face GP appointments
20 Aug 2021
The College has appeared in today’s media, setting the record straight about face-to-face appointments in general practice. You can read our full statement here: Professor Martin Marshall, Chair of the Royal College of GPs, said: “It’s a misconception that GPs aren’t seeing patients face to face
Infection-related journals

American Journal of Infection Control

Self-Reported versus Observed Audit: Measuring CHG Bathing Compliance
22 Aug 2021
Daily bathing with pre-packaged 2% chlorhexidine gluconate (CHG) cloths for intensive care unit (ICU) patients is widely supported in literature to decrease risk of central line associated bloodstream infections (CLABSIs). 1–3 To monitor and sustain this practice, hospitals frequently complete audits to ensure CHG bathing is being completed.

A Simulation Study to Assess Fluid Leakage through the Glove-Gown Interface in Isolation Settings
21 Aug 2021
Isolation gowns are one of the most frequently used personal protective equipment (PPE) in healthcare settings. They serve a critical role in infection control by protecting arms and exposed body areas of healthcare personnel (HCP), visitors, and patients.

Turning Up the Volume to Address Biases in Predicted Healthcare-Associated Infections and Enhance U.S. Hospital Rankings: A Data-Driven Approach
20 Aug 2021
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) initiated the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) as an effective intervention to promote clinical, personnel, and patient safety by tracking and monitoring healthcare-associated infections (HAIs).1 The NHSN is the most widely used HAI surveillance system in the U.S.

The Impact of Monitoring Software on Antimicrobial Management in a Pediatric Intensive Care Unit
20 Aug 2021
Antimicrobial stewardship programs are necessary practices to combat resistance in hospital infections. However, studies frequently cite the scarcity of technological resources as an obstacle to the comprehensive development of ASPs.

Early prediction of central line associated bloodstream infection (CLABSI) using machine learning
20 Aug 2021
Central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSIs) are associated with significant morbidity, mortality, and increased healthcare costs. Despite the high prevalence of CLABSIs in the U.S., there are currently no tools to stratify a patient's risk of developing an infection as the result of central line placement.

Household level SARS-CoV-2 sero-epidemiology in a high prevalence group of adults and children-implications for community infection control
19 Aug 2021
The sero-epidemiology of Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) at a household level has been assessed through screening contacts of medically attended adult index cases, using cohorts with limited numbers of infected children, and/or outside the US.1-3 We report severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) seroprevalence in a random group of large households sampled in the community.

Effectiveness and Real-World Materials Compatibility of a Novel Hydrogen Peroxide Disinfectant Cleaner
17 Aug 2021
A novel 4% hydrogen peroxide disinfectant was effective against methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), Clostridioides difficile spores, carbapenem-resistant Escherichia coli, and 2 strains of Candida auris. In laboratory testing, a sodium hypochlorite...
Disinfectant caused fading and loss of pliability of a hospital mattress, but the hydrogen peroxide disinfectant did not.

**Clinical outcomes of intervention for carbapenems and anti-methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus antibiotics by an antimicrobial stewardship team**

17 Aug 2021

Increasing antibiotic consumption has become a critical global issue.1-3 The unnecessary and inappropriate use of antibiotics has led to the emergence of resistant bacteria, thereby creating difficulty in treating infections.1-3 Antibiotic resistance extends hospital stay and increases medical costs.3 In addition, unnecessary antibiotic use also increases medical expenditure.2

**How Clinicians Manage Routinely Low Supplies of Personal Protective Equipment**

17 Aug 2021

While epidemics and pandemics can cause acute shortages of personal protective equipment (PPE) for health care workers, in many countries PPE is often limited or unavailable under normal working conditions. This chronic shortage of PPE results in routine exposures of both patients and workers to infectious disease.

**Building a Personal Protective Equipment Monitor Team as Part of a Comprehensive COVID-19 Prevention Strategy**

17 Aug 2021

We instituted Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Monitors as part of our care of COVID-19 patients in high-risk zones. PPE Monitors aided healthcare personnel (HCP) in donning and doffing, which contributed to nearly zero transmission of COVID-19 to HCP, despite their care of over 1400 COVID-19 patients.

**High Rate of Multidrug-Resistant Organisms (MDROs) among COVID-19 Patients Presenting with Bacteremia upon Hospital Admission**

17 Aug 2021

We investigated the clinical implications of bacteremia among hospitalized COVID-19 patients. Higher rates (52.1%) of multidrug resistant organisms (MDRO) were noted on hospital admission compared to nosocomial acquisition (25.0%). Methicillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus was the predominant pathogen.

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**BMJ Quality & Safety - current issue**

**Medical crisis checklists in the emergency department: a simulation-based multi-institutional randomised controlled trial**

19 Aug 2021

Background Studies carried out in simulated environments suggest that checklists improve the management of surgical and intensive care crises. Whether checklists improve the management of medical crises simulated in actual emergency departments (EDs) is unknown.

**Factors influencing physician responsiveness to nurse-initiated communication: a qualitative study**

19 Aug 2021

Background How quickly physicians respond to communications from bedside nurses is important for the delivery of safe inpatient care. Delays in physician responsiveness can impede care or contribute to patient harm. Understanding contributory factors to physician responsiveness can provide insights to promote timely physician response, possibly improving communication to ensure safe patient care.

**Crisis checklists in emergency medicine: another step forward for cognitive aids**

19 Aug 2021
A saying often attributed to George Bernard Shaw is 'The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place.' While it has been debated who originally made this statement, this expression has been used across several industries in different ways.1–4 Communication is an essential aspect of patient safety

Timely testing: who needs to do what differently to improve adherence to guideline-recommended glycaemic monitoring?
19 Aug 2021
The haemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level has become the standard of care for monitoring type 2 diabetes as it reflects a person’s average blood glucose level over the previous 2–3 months, is correlated with risk of long-term complications and can be measured cheaply and easily

Adherence to guideline-recommended HbA1c testing frequency and better outcomes in patients with type 2 diabetes: a 5-year retrospective cohort study in Australian general practice
19 Aug 2021
Background Clinical practice guidelines emphasise the role of regular monitoring of glycated haemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) for patients with type 2 diabetes, with most recommending 6-monthly testing. Nonetheless, there are few in-depth studies evaluating the clinical impact of the recommended testing frequency for patients to underpin the significance of guideline adherence

Use of telecritical care for family visitation to ICU during the COVID-19 pandemic: an interview study and sentiment analysis
19 Aug 2021
Background When the COVID-19 pandemic restricted visitation between intensive care unit patients and their families, the virtual intensive care unit (vICU) in our large tertiary hospital was adapted to facilitate virtual family visitation

International recommendations for a vascular access minimum dataset: a Delphi consensus-building study
19 Aug 2021
Background Data regarding vascular access device use and outcomes are limited. In part, this gap reflects the absence of guidance on what variables should be collected to assess patient outcomes. We sought to derive international consensus on a vascular access minimum dataset

"It's not just hacking for the sake of it": a qualitative study of health innovators views on patient-driven open innovations, quality and safety
19 Aug 2021
Background Open do-it-yourself (DIY) health innovations raise new dilemmas for patient-oriented and service-oriented scholars and healthcare providers. Our study aimed to generate practical insights into quality and safety issues to patient care raised by two volunteer-run, open DIY solutions: Nightscout Project (patient-driven, open-source software for type 1 diabetes management) and e-NABLE

Trauma Resuscitation Using in situ Simulation Team Training (TRUST) study: latent safety threat evaluation using framework analysis and video review
19 Aug 2021
Introduction Trauma resuscitation is a complex and time-sensitive endeavour with significant risk for error. These errors can manifest from sequential system, team and knowledge-based failures, defined as latent safety threats (LSTs). In situ simulation (ISS) provides a novel prospective approach to recreate clinical situations that may manifest LSTs

Association between paediatric intraoperative anaesthesia handover and adverse postoperative outcomes
19 Aug 2021
Objective To determine whether intraoperative handover of patient care from one anaesthesia clinician to another was associated with an increased risk of adverse postoperative outcomes during paediatric surgeries. Design, setting and participants A
Clinical Infectious Diseases - Advance Access

**Effectiveness of continuous endotracheal cuff pressure control for the prevention of ventilator associated respiratory infections: an open-label randomised, controlled trial**

22 Aug 2021

**Abstract**

Background An endotracheal tube cuff pressure between 20-30 cmH2O is recommended to prevent ventilator-associated respiratory infection (VARI). We aimed to evaluate whether continuous cuff pressure control (CPC) was associated with reduced VARI incidence compared with intermittent CPC.

**Working HAND in HAND: Central nervous system complications in people with HIV**

20 Aug 2021

**A Paradigm Shift to Align Transmission Routes with Mechanisms**

20 Aug 2021

**Abstract**

Current infection control guidelines subscribe to a contact/droplet/airborne paradigm that is based on outdated understanding. Here, we propose to modify and align existing guidelines with a more accurate description of the different transmission routes. This will improve the effectiveness of control measures as more transmissible variants of SARS-CoV-2 emerge.

**Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision**

19 Aug 2021

To the Editor—I thank Fish et al for their letter [1] responding to my commentary [2]. I apologize for assuming Fish's first name is "Maxine," for referring to her organization as the "VMMC Project" (from its URL, https://www.vmmcproject/

**Remdesivir and Mortality in Patients with COVID-19**

19 Aug 2021

**Abstract**

Background The impact of remdesivir (RDV) on COVID-19 mortality is controversial, and the mortality effect in sub-groups of baseline disease severity has been incompletely explored. The purpose of this study was to assess the association of RDV with mortality in patients with COVID-19.

**Deconstructing the Treatment Effect of Remdesivir in the Adaptive COVID-19 Treatment Trial-1: Implications for Critical Care Resource Utilization**

19 Aug 2021

**Abstract**

Background The Adaptive COVID-19 Treatment Trial-1 (ACTT-1) found that remdesivir therapy hastened recovery in patients hospitalized with COVID-19, but the pathway for this improvement was not explored.

**Post-vaccination COVID-19: A case-control study and genomic analysis of 119 breakthrough infections in partially vaccinated individuals**

19 Aug 2021

**Abstract**

Background Post-vaccination infections challenge the control of the COVID-19 pandemic. Methods We matched 119 cases of post-vaccination SARS-CoV-2 infection with BNT162b2 mRNA, or ChAdOx1 nCOV-19, to 476 unvaccinated patients with COVID-19 (Sept 2020-March 2021), according to age and sex.
Efficacy of cipargamin (KAE609) in a randomized, Phase II dose-escalation study in adults in sub-Saharan Africa with uncomplicated Plasmodium falciparum malaria
19 Aug 2021
AbstractBackgroundCipargamin (KAE609) is a potent antimalarial in Phase II. Here we report efficacy, pharmacokinetics, and resistance marker analysis across a range of cipargamin doses. These were secondary endpoints from a study primarily conducted to assess the hepatic safety of cipargamin (hepatic safety data are reported elsewhere).

Subclinical tuberculosis in children: diagnostic strategies for identification reported in a 6-year national prospective surveillance study
19 Aug 2021
AbstractBackgroundSubclinical tuberculosis (TB) is well recognized and defined as a disease state with absent or non-recognized symptoms. The study identifies factors associated with subclinical TB and diagnostic strategies in a low-burden, high-resource country. Methods Data was collected between December 2013 and November 2019 through the Swiss Pediatric Surveillance Unit (SPSU).

A Retrospective Test-Negative Case-Control Study to Evaluate Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness in Preventing Hospitalizations in Children
19 Aug 2021
AbstractBackgroundVaccination is the primary strategy to reduce influenza burden. Influenza vaccine effectiveness (VE) can vary annually depending on circulating strains. Methods We used a test-negative case-control study design to estimate influenza VE against laboratory-confirmed influenza-related hospitalizations among children (6 months-17 years) across 5 influenza seasons in Atlanta, Georgia.

Incidence, Clinical Characteristics, and Risk Factors of SARS-CoV-2 Infection among Pregnant Individuals in the United States
19 Aug 2021
AbstractBackgroundData about the risk of SARS-CoV-2 infection among pregnant individuals are needed to inform infection prevention guidance and counseling for this population. Methods We prospectively followed a cohort of pregnant individuals during August 2020–March 2021 at three U.S. sites.

Pre-Hospital Administration of Remdesivir during a SARS-CoV-2 Outbreak in a Skilled Nursing Facility
19 Aug 2021
AbstractCompletion of a 5-day course of remdesivir was associated with approximately 17-fold increased odds of survival among a sample of 54 nursing home residents with SARS-CoV-2 infection during the course of an outbreak from October to December, 2020. Remdesivir was well-tolerated; administration was logistically feasible in a pre-hospital environment.

Clinical spectrum of SARS-CoV-2 infection and protection from symptomatic re-infection
19 Aug 2021
AbstractBackgroundThere are few data on the full spectrum of disease caused by SARS-CoV-2 infection across the lifespan from community-based or non-clinical settings. Methods We followed 2,338 people in Managua, Nicaragua, aged 0 to 94 years old from March 2020 through March 2021.

Intravenous injection of COVID-19 mRNA vaccine can induce acute myopericarditis in mouse model
18 Aug 2021
AbstractBackground Post-vaccination myopericarditis is reported after immunization with COVID-19 mRNA-vaccines. The effect of accidental intravenous injection of this vaccine on the heart is unknown. Methods We compared the clinical manifestations, histopathological
A longitudinal observational study of aetiology and long-term outcomes of sepsis in Malawi revealing the key role of disseminated tuberculosis

Who Knew? Injectable TB Drugs Are Not Equal, Despite Drug Susceptibility Testing

Diagnostic Value of 16S Ribosomal RNA Gene Polymerase Chain Reaction/Sanger Sequencing in Clinical Practice

Reply to Scheper and De Boer

Rifampin for staphylococcal Prosthetic Joint Infection, do we still need a RCT?

Twelve-month systemic consequences of COVID-19 in patients discharged from hospital: a prospective cohort study in Wuhan, China

Middle-aged Lady With Extensive Omental Caking, Peritoneal Nodules, and Pelvic Masses

Which are the best COVID-19 vaccines?
Rate and severity of suspected SARS-Cov-2 reinfection in a cohort of PCR-positive COVID-19 patients
19 Aug 2021
Publication date: Available online 19 August 2021Source: Clinical Microbiology and InfectionAuthor(s): Jeff Slezak, Katia Bruxvoort, Heidi Fischer, Benjamin Broder, Bradley Ackerson, Sara Tartof

Molecular basis of synchronous replication of malaria parasites in the blood stage
22 Aug 2021
Publication date: October 2021Source: Current Opinion in Microbiology, Volume 63Author(s): Benedito M Dos Santos, Pedro HS Pereira, Célia RS Garcia

Evolutionary ecology theory — microbial population structure
22 Aug 2021
Publication date: October 2021Source: Current Opinion in Microbiology, Volume 63Author(s): Arne Traulsen, Michael Sieber

The longitudinal and cross-sectional heterogeneity of the intestinal microbiota
22 Aug 2021
Publication date: October 2021Source: Current Opinion in Microbiology, Volume 63Author(s): Brittany M Miller, Megan J Liou, Jee-Yon Lee, Andreas J Bäumler

Pathogenic Aspergillus and Fusarium as important causes of blinding corneal infections — the role of neutrophils in fungal killing, tissue damage and cytokine production
20 Aug 2021
Publication date: October 2021Source: Current Opinion in Microbiology, Volume 63Author(s): Bridget Ratitong, Eric Pearlman

Contact and competition between mitochondria and microbes
17 Aug 2021
Publication date: October 2021Source: Current Opinion in Microbiology, Volume 63Author(s): Tânia C Medeiros, Chahat Mehra, Lena Pernas

Entry of hepatitis B virus: going beyond NTCP to the nucleus
22 Aug 2021
Publication date: October 2021Source: Current Opinion in Virology, Volume 50Author(s): Ji Tian, Cong Li, Wenhui Li

Know your enemy and know yourself – the case of SARS-CoV-2 host factors
22 Aug 2021
Publication date: Available online 21 August 2021Source: Current Opinion in VirologyAuthor(s): Wai Suet Lee, Meisam Yousefi, Biao Guo Yan, Cynthia Lingli Yong,Yaw Shin Ooi

Editorial overview: Special issue on antiviral strategies in Current Opinion in Virology
20 Aug 2021
Publication date: October 2021Source: Current Opinion in Virology, Volume 50Author(s): Richard K Plemper
Antibody landscapes of SARS-CoV-2 can reveal novel vaccine and diagnostic targets
20 Aug 2021
Publication date: Available online 20 August 2021Source: Current Opinion in VirologyAuthor(s): Asmaa Hachim, Niloufar Kavian, Sophie A Valkenburg

The surface glycoproteins of hantaviruses
19 Aug 2021
Publication date: October 2021Source: Current Opinion in Virology, Volume 50Author(s): Pablo Guardado-Calvo, Félix A Rey

The long and winding road: human papillomavirus entry and subcellular trafficking
18 Aug 2021
Publication date: October 2021Source: Current Opinion in Virology, Volume 50Author(s): Michelle A Ozbun, Samuel K Campos

Interfering with SARS-CoV-2: are interferons friends or foes in COVID-19?
17 Aug 2021
Publication date: Available online 17 August 2021Source: Current Opinion in VirologyAuthor(s): Ivan Zanoni

Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious Disease

Impact of cobas PCR Media Freezing on SARS-CoV-2 Viral RNA Integrity and Whole Genome Sequencing Analyses
22 Aug 2021
Publication date: Available online 21 August 2021Source: Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious DiseaseAuthor(s): Patrick Benoit, Floriane Point, Simon Gagnon, Daniel E. Kaufmann, Cécile Tremblay, Richard Paul Harrigan, Isabelle Hardy, François Coutlée, Simon Grandjean Lapierre

SARS-CoV-2 reinfection in a healthcare professional in inner Sao Paulo during the first wave of COVID-19 in Brazil
22 Aug 2021
Publication date: December 2021Source: Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious Disease, Volume 101, Issue 4Author(s): Carlos Henrique Camargo, Claudia Regina Gonçalves, Erica Valessa Ramos Gomes Pagnoca, Karoline Rodrigues Campos, Janaina Other Martins Montanha, Mariélia Navarro Pinheiro Flores, Márcia Maria Costa Nunes Soares, Fernanda Modesto Tolentino Binhard, Patrícia Marques Ferreira, Ana

Whole-genome analysis of SARS-CoV-2 samples indicate no tissue specific genetic adaptation of the virus in COVID-19 patients’ upper and lower respiratory tract
20 Aug 2021
Publication date: Available online 20 August 2021Source: Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious DiseaseAuthor(s): Claudia Wylezich, Tina Schaller, Rainer Claus, Klaus Hirschbühl, Bruno Märkl, Elisabeth Kling, Oliver Spring, Dirk Höper, Jürgen Schlegel, Martin Beer, Sebastian Dintner

Emerging Infectious Diseases Journal - ahead of print

Considering Mycological Rarities
19 Aug 2021
B. Breedlove
Predictors of Test Positivity, Mortality, and Seropositivity during the Early Coronavirus Disease Epidemic, Orange County, California, USA
18 Aug 2021
D. M. Parker et al.

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 Transmission in Georgia, USA, February 1–July 13, 2020
16 Aug 2021
Y. Wang et al.

Point-of-Care Antigen Test for SARS-CoV-2 in Asymptomatic College Students
16 Aug 2021
S. C. Tinker et al.

European Journal of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases

COVID-19 or not COVID-19? Compared characteristics of patients hospitalized for suspected COVID-19
20 Aug 2021
Abstract During an epidemic period, we compared patients hospitalized for initial suspicion of COVID-19 but for whom an alternative diagnosis was finally retained (n = 152) with those who had COVID-19 (n = 222). Most common diagnoses were another infectious disease and heart failure.

Characterization of an osteomyelitis case caused by dalbavancin, ceftaroline, and vancomycin non-susceptible methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus
20 Aug 2021
Abstract We report a case of osteomyelitis due to methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) that is also non-susceptible to vancomycin, dalbavancin, ceftaroline, and ceftobiprole, in the absence of exposure to the latter three antibiotics. It was isolated from a patient with a 26-year history of cranial surgeries and episodes of osteomyelitis. Whole-genome sequencing was performed.

Comparison of teicoplanin versus vancomycin in combination with piperacillin-tazobactam or meropenem for the risk of acute kidney injury
20 Aug 2021
Abstract We compared the rates of acute kidney injury (AKI), 7-day and 30-day mortalities, and resolution of AKI at discharge in combination therapies involving either teicoplanin (TEI) or vancomycin (VAN) with piperacillin-tazobactam (TZP) or meropenem (MER).

Sex-specific impact of severe obesity in the outcomes of hospitalized patients with COVID-19: a large retrospective study from the Bronx, New York
20 Aug 2021
Abstract It has been demonstrated that obesity is an independent risk factor for worse outcomes in patients with COVID-19. Our objectives were to investigate which classes of obesity are associated with higher in-hospital mortality and to assess the association between obesity and systemic inflammation.

Predictive factors, outcomes, and molecular epidemiology of Clostridioides difficile diarrhea in Brazilian hospitals
20 Aug 2021
Abstract Little is known about the role of lineage of strains of Clostridioides difficile (CD) on the clinical presentation of CD infection (CDI) in Latin America, especially regarding the treatment response.

Accuracy of the serological detection of IgG and IgM to SARS-Cov-2: a prospective, cross-sectional study
Abstract In response to the rapidly evolving of SARS-CoV-2 infection, numerous serological tests have been developed but their sensitivity and specificity are unclear. We collected serum samples of patients and health-care professionals to assess the accuracy of chemiluminescent (CLIA) and two lateral flow immunochromatographic assays (LFIA) to determine IgG and IgM antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Correction to: Diagnostic performance of four SARS-CoV-2 antibody assays in patients with COVID-19 or with bacterial and non-SARS-CoV-2 viral respiratory infections

Exploratory development of PCR-fluorescent probes in rapid detection of mutations associated with extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis

Abstract This study aims to evaluate the clinical value of PCR-fluorescent probes for detecting the mutation gene associated with extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis (XDR-TB). The molecular species identification of 900 sputum specimens was performed using polymerase chain reaction (PCR)–fluorescent probe.

Modifications of CD4 T cells, CD4/CD8 ratio and serum levels of soluble CD14 in HIV-HCV-coinfected patients after sustained HCV response induced by direct-acting antiviral agents: influence of liver cirrhosis

Abstract To analyze the modifications of CD4 T cell, CD4/CD8 ratio, and serum levels of soluble CD14 (sCD14) in HIV-HCV-coinfected patients after treatment with direct anti-HCV antiviral agents. Consecutive cases of HIV/HCV-coinfected patients, attended at the University Hospital, who achieved sustained virological responses with interferon-free hepatitis C antiviral drugs, were analyzed.

Bartonella species as a cause of culture-negative endocarditis in South Africa

Abstract Previous reports have highlighted the high prevalence of blood culture negative endocarditis (BCNE) in South Africa. The Tygerberg Endocarditis Cohort (TEC) study is an ongoing prospective cohort study of patients with confirmed or suspected IE presenting to Tygerberg Academic Hospital, Cape Town, South Africa.

Clinical evaluation of rapid point-of-care antigen tests for diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection

Abstract The RT-qPCR in respiratory specimens is the gold standard for diagnosing acute COVID-19 infections. However, this test takes considerable time before test results become available, thereby delaying patients from being diagnosed, treated, and isolated immediately. Rapid antigen tests could overcome this problem.

Reducing the dosing frequency of selective digestive tract decontamination to three times daily provides effective decontamination of Gram-negative bacteria

Abstract This study evaluated the effectiveness of selective digestive tract decontamination (SDD) application three times daily (t.i.d.) compared to the standard four times daily (q.i.d.). Retrospective equivalence (combined non-inferiority and non-superiority design) study with a before-and-after design on a tertiary ICU in which the SDD frequency was reduced from q.i.d. to t.i.d.

The ID NOW COVID-19, a high-speed high-performance assay

Abstract The ID NOW COVID-19 assay is a promising tool for the rapid identification of COVID-19 patients. However, its performances were questioned. We evaluate the ID NOW COVID-19 in comparison to a reference RT-PCR using a collection of 48 fresh
nasopharyngeal swabs sampled on universal transport media (UTM). Only 2 false negatives of the ID NOW COVID-19 were identified

**Empirical treatment with doxycycline of fever of intermediate duration**
20 Aug 2021

**The use of multi-pronged screening strategy to understand the epidemiology of carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae in Hong Kong: transition from epidemic to endemic setting**
20 Aug 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)

**Direct next-generation sequencing diagnosis of echovirus 9 meningitis, France**
20 Aug 2021

Abstract The prognosis of central nervous system infections caused by enteroviruses partially depends on the viral genotype, which is not provided by current point-of-care diagnostic methods. In this study, next-generation sequencing identified an echovirus 9 directly from the cerebrospinal fluid of a patient presenting with meningitis.

**The recent characteristics of influenza-related hospitalization in Japanese children**
20 Aug 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

**Performance of a MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry-based method for rapid detection of third-generation oxymino-cephalosporin-resistant Escherichia coli and Klebsiella spp. from blood cultures**
20 Aug 2021

Abstract We optimized and prospectively evaluated a simple MALDI-TOF MS-based method for direct detection of third-generation oxymino-cephalosporin resistance (3rd CephR) in Escherichia coli and Klebsiella spp. from blood cultures (BC)

**Semi-mechanistic PK/PD modelling of meropenem and sulbactam combination against carbapenem-resistant strains of Acinetobacter baumannii**
20 Aug 2021

Abstract Due to limited treatment options for carbapenem-resistant Acinetobacter baumannii (CR-AB) infections, antibiotic combinations are commonly used. In this study, we explored the potential efficacy of meropenem-sulbactam combination (MEM/SUL) against CR-AB. The checkerboard method was used to screen for synergistic activity of MEM/SUL against 50 clinical CR-AB isolates

**Correction to: Bacterial etiology of community-acquired pneumonia in immunocompetent hospitalized patients and appropriateness of empirical treatment recommendations: an international point-prevalence study**
20 Aug 2021
Determinants for hospitalisations, intensive care unit admission and death among 20,293 reported COVID-19 cases in Portugal, March to April 2020

19 Aug 2021
Background Determinants of hospitalisation, intensive care unit (ICU) admission and death are still unclear for COVID-19. Few studies have adjusted for confounding for different clinical outcomes including all reported cases within a country.

Post-migration acquisition of HIV: Estimates from four European countries, 2007 to 2016

19 Aug 2021
Background The assumption that migrants acquire human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) before migration, particularly those from high prevalence areas, is common. Aim We assessed the place of HIV acquisition of migrants diagnosed in four European countries using surveillance data.

Reports of anaphylaxis after coronavirus disease 2019 vaccination, South Korea, 26 February to 30 April 2021

19 Aug 2021
The South Korea mass vaccination programme administered 3.8 million doses of COVID-19 vaccinations between 26 February and 30 April 2021. After 173 suspected anaphylaxis reports to the nationwide monitoring system for adverse events following immunisation, 44 anaphylaxis cases were confirmed using Brighton Collaboration case definitions. The rates per million doses were 18.2 cases and 6

Hepatology

Reply to Letters to the Editor: Clinical outcomes in COVID-19 patients with current or past hepatitis B virus infection

15 Aug 2021
Hepatology, Accepted Article.

Hepatitis E virus infection activates NLRP3 inflammasome antagonizing interferon response but therapeutically targetable

15 Aug 2021
Hepatology, Accepted Article.

Infection

Correction to: Key summary of German national treatment guidance for hospitalized COVID-19 patients

19 Aug 2021
A cost of illness study of COVID-19 patients and retrospective modelling of potential cost savings when administering remdesivir during the pandemic “first wave” in a German tertiary care hospital

18 Aug 2021
Abstract Purpose First detected in China in 2019, the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has rapidly spread globally. Since then, healthcare systems are exposed to major challenges due to scarce personnel and financial resources.

Comprehensive estimation for the length and dispersion of COVID-19 incubation period: a systematic review and meta-analysis

18 Aug 2021
Abstract Purpose To estimate the central tendency and dispersion for incubation period of COVID-19 and, in turn, assess the effect of a certain length of quarantine for close contacts in active monitoring. Methods Literature related to SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 was
searched through April 26, 2020. Quality was assessed according to Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality guidelines.

Evaluation of accuracy, exclusivity, limit-of-detection and ease-of-use of LumiraDx™: An antigen-detecting point-of-care device for SARS-CoV-2
12 Aug 2021

Abstract Purpose Rapid antigen-detecting tests (Ag-RDTs) for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) can transform pandemic control. Thus far, sensitivity (≤ 85%) of lateral-flow assays has limited scale-up. Conceivably, microfluidic immunofluorescence Ag-RDTs could increase sensitivity for SARS-CoV-2 detection.

In-depth profiling of COVID-19 risk factors and preventive measures in healthcare workers
11 Aug 2021

Abstract Purpose To determine risk factors for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in healthcare workers (HCWs), characterize symptoms, and evaluate preventive measures against SARS-CoV-2 spread in hospitals.

Evaluation of a point-of-care molecular detection device for Leishmania spp. and intercurrent fungal and mycobacterial organisms in Peruvian patients with cutaneous ulcers
08 Aug 2021

Abstract Purpose Overlapping clinical features of cutaneous leishmaniasis (CL) with ulcers caused by fungi and mycobacteria necessitate confirmatory diagnostic testing. We evaluated a handheld battery-operated device for detection of CL and common fungal and mycobacterial causes of ulcers.

International Journal of Medical Microbiology

Comparative Phenotypic Characterization of Hybrid Shiga Toxin-Producing / Uropathogenic Escherichia coli, Canonical Uropathogenic and Shiga Toxin-Producing Escherichia coli
19 Aug 2021

Publication date: Available online 18 August 2021Source: International Journal of Medical MicrobiologyAuthor(s): Noble Selasi Gati, Imke Johanna Temme, Barbara Middendorf-Bauchart, Alexander Kehl, Ulrich Dobrindt, Alexander Mellmann

Genomic and phenotypic comparison of two Salmonella Typhimurium strains responsible for consecutive salmonellosis outbreaks in New Zealand
19 Aug 2021


Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology - FirstView Article

Bat intrusions at a tertiary care center in Iowa, 2018–2020
16 Aug 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:

Investigation of multidrug-resistant bacteria in dogs enrolled at animal-assisted therapy in a trauma and surgical emergency hospital
16 Aug 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:
Well-being tradeoffs: Effect of loosening overnight restrictions on antimicrobial starts
16 Aug 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:

Anatomy of a successful stewardship intervention: Improving perioperative prescribing in penicillin-allergic patients
16 Aug 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:

Microbial burden on environmental surfaces in patient rooms before daily cleaning—Analysis of multiple confounding variables
16 Aug 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:

Vaccination remains the first choice to control the spread of delta and other variants of severe acute respiratory coronavirus virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)
06 Aug 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:

Healthcare-associated transmission of severe acute respiratory coronavirus virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) among Thai healthcare personnel who receive 2 doses of a coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) vaccine: A call for considering a booster dose
06 Aug 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:

Incidence rate of severe acute respiratory coronavirus virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) among nurses in coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) units versus non–COVID-19-units at a large academic medical center
02 Aug 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:

Laboratory evaluation of the Abbott ID NOW rapid severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) amplification assay and its potential use in the emergency department
02 Aug 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:

Transmission of severe acute respiratory coronavirus virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) among health careworkers (HCWs) during three waves of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic in Germany: Results of an anonymous survey
02 Aug 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:

Antimicrobial stewardship in patients with confirmed coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)
02 Aug 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:

“It’s worth a shot… or is it?” Notes from the grassroots on vaccine hesitancy and bridging gaps
02 Aug 2021
Published online by Cambridge University Press:

International Journal of Infectious Diseases
Seroprevalence and associated risk factors of chikungunya, dengue and Zika in eight districts in Tanzania

22 Aug 2021
Publication date: Available online 21 August 2021
Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases

Comparison of analytical sensitivity of SARS-CoV-2 molecular detection kits

22 Aug 2021
Publication date: Available online 21 August 2021
Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases
Author(s): Jing Yang, Yanxi Han, Runling Zhang, Rui Zhang, Jinming Li

Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome (MIS): a multicentre retrospective review of adults and adolescents in South Africa

22 Aug 2021
Publication date: Available online 21 August 2021
Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases
Author(s): Jennifer van Heerden, Jeremy Nel, Pramothe Moodley, Priscilla Govender, Jonathan Hooijer, Claudia Ickinger, Sa’ad Lahri, Elizabeth Louw, Helena Rabie, Denasha Reddy, Jacob Tsitsi, Michelle Venter, Arifa Parker

Efficacy and Safety of Pegylated Interferon-α2b in Moderate COVID-19: A phase 3, randomized, comparator-controlled, open-label study

22 Aug 2021
Publication date: Available online 21 August 2021
Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases
Author(s): Shashi Bhushan B L, Sunil Wanve, Parshottam Koradia, Vinay Bhomia, Pravin Soni, Sisir Chakraborty, Akash Khobragade, Shashank Joshi, Sanjeev Kumar Mendiratta, Kevin Kumar Kansagra, Anurag Parhar, Sunil Sharma, Jatin Patel

Serotype and genotype diversity of dengue viruses circulating in India: A multicentre retrospective study involving virus research diagnostic laboratory network during 2018

22 Aug 2021
Publication date: Available online 21 August 2021
Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases

Herpes Zoster after COVID-vaccination

22 Aug 2021
Publication date: Available online 21 August 2021
Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases
Author(s): C.S. van Dam, I. Lede, J. Schaar, M. Al-Dulaimy, R. Röskens, M. Smits

Seronegative Neurobrucellosis – Do we need new Neurobrucellosis criteria?

20 Aug 2021
Publication date: Available online 19 August 2021
Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases
Author(s): Vassiliis E. Papadopoulos, Kostas Patas, Argyro Tountepoulou, Georgios Velonakis, Foteini Boufidou, Stylianos Chatzipanagiotou, Sophia Vassilopoulou

Bloodstream infections in the COVID-19 era: results from an Italian multicenter study

19 Aug 2021
Publication date: Available online 18 August 2021
Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases
Author(s): Zeno Pasquini, Iacopo Barocci, Lucia Brescini, Bianca Candelaresi, Sefera Castelletti, Ilenicella Valentina, Sara Mazzanti, Gaia Proacccini, Elena Orsetti, Francesco Pallotta, Giorgio Amadio, Andrea Giacometti, Marcello Tavio, Francesco Barchiesi

Risk factors for pulmonary embolism in patients with COVID-19: a systemic review and meta-analysis

19 Aug 2021
How to ab(use) a COVID-19 antigen rapid test with soft drinks?
19 Aug 2021

Association of COVID-19 case-fatality rate with disease burden: an ecological analysis in Italy during the first wave.
19 Aug 2021

Immunological Changes after COVID-19 Vaccination in an HIV-Positive Patient
19 Aug 2021

HIV-1 diagnosis using dried blood spots from patients in Kinshasa (DRC): a tool to detect misdiagnosis and achieve WHO 2030 targets
19 Aug 2021

Population pharmacokinetics of meropenem in critically ill infant patients
19 Aug 2021

Lower respiratory tract infection hospitalizations among American Indian/Alaska Native adults, Indian Health Service and Alaska Region, 1998-2014
19 Aug 2021

How COVID-19 highlighted the need for infection prevention and control measures to become central to the global conversation: experience from the conflict settings of the Middle-East
19 Aug 2021

External Validation and Recalibration of the CURB-65 and PSI for Predicting 30-Day Mortality and Critical Care Intervention in Multiethnic Patients with COVID-19
19 Aug 2021
Kyasanur Forest Disease, is our surveillance System healthy to prevent a larger outbreak? A mixed-method Study, Shivamogga, Karnataka, India: 2019

19 Aug 2021
Publication date: Available online 17 August 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious DiseasesAuthor(s): Prashant Bhat, Jagadeesha H S, Mohan Kumar R, Sudheerchandra Sooda, Premanand K, Ravi Kumar

Intestinal microbiota profiles in infants with acute gastroenteritis caused by Rotavirus and Norovirus infection: a prospective cohort study

17 Aug 2021
Publication date: Available online 16 August 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious DiseasesAuthor(s): Lijing Xiong, Yang Li, Jing Li, Jing Yang, Lihong Shang, Xiaqing He, Lirong Liu, Yurong Luo, Xiaoli Xie

Seroprevalence and risk factors for SARS-CoV-2 Infection in selected urban areas in Ethiopia: a cross-sectional evaluation during July 2020

17 Aug 2021
Publication date: Available online 16 August 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious DiseasesAuthor(s): Enyew Birru Tadesse, Abdullahaiz A Endris, Henok Solomon, Mikias Alayu, Adisu Kebede, Kirubel Eshetu, Gizaw Tekla, Biniyam Eskinder Seid, Jelaludin Ahmed, Sisay Alemayehu Abayneh, Beyene Mogesc Hizikiyas Gerawork, David Sugerman, Zewdu Assela, Aschalew Abayneh, Ebba Abate, Lia Taddese


17 Aug 2021
Publication date: September 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious Diseases, Volume 110Author(s): Atieh Darbandi, Arezoo Asadi, Roya Ghanavati, Roghayeh Afifirad, Amir Darb Emamie, Maryam Kakanj, Malihe Talebi

Circulation of Bordetella pertussis in the Caribbean Netherlands: a population-based seroepidemiological study

16 Aug 2021

Lung Ultrasound Effectively Detects HIV-Associated Interstitial Pulmonary Disease

16 Aug 2021
Publication date: Available online 15 August 2021Source: International Journal of Infectious DiseasesAuthor(s): Daniel T. Marggrander, Sinem Koç-Günel, Nesrin Tekeli-Camci, Simon Martin, Rejane Golbach, Timo Wolf

Journal of Clinical Microbiology

Azithromycin and doxycycline resistance profiles of US Mycoplasma genitalium strains and their association with treatment outcomes

18 Aug 2021
Journal of Clinical Microbiology, Volume 0, Issue ja, -Not available-. Comprehensive Study Identifies a Sensitive, Low-Risk, Closed-System Model for Detection of Fungal Contaminants in Cell and Gene Therapy Products

18 Aug 2021
Journal of Clinical Microbiology, Volume 0, Issue ja, -Not available-. 

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Genome typing and epidemiology of human listeriosis in New Zealand 1999-2018
18 Aug 2021
Journal of Clinical Microbiology, Volume 0, Issue ja, -Not available-.

High Clinical Impact of Broad-Range Fungal PCR in Suspected Fungal Sinusitis
18 Aug 2021
Journal of Clinical Microbiology, Volume 0, Issue ja, -Not available-.

Comparative evaluation of Assays for Broad Detection of Molecular Resistance Mechanisms in Enterobacterales Isolates
18 Aug 2021
Journal of Clinical Microbiology, Volume 0, Issue ja, -Not available-.

Detection and Clinical Implications of Monovalent Rotavirus Vaccine-Derived Virus Strains in Children with Gastroenteritis in Alberta, Canada
18 Aug 2021
Journal of Clinical Microbiology, Volume 0, Issue ja, -Not available-.

Cooperation Under Pressure: Lessons from the COVID-19 Swab Crisis
18 Aug 2021
Journal of Clinical Microbiology, Volume 0, Issue ja, -Not available-.

Closing the Brief Case: Ventilator-Associated Corynebacterium accolens Pneumonia in a Patient with Respiratory Failure Due to COVID-19
18 Aug 2021

Answer to September 2021 Photo Quiz
18 Aug 2021

The Brief Case: Ventilator-Associated Corynebacterium accolens Pneumonia in a Patient with Respiratory Failure Due to COVID-19
18 Aug 2021

Correction for Burd et al., “The Brief Case: Loa loa in a Patient from Nigeria”
18 Aug 2021

Photo Quiz: A 45-Year-Old Man with Acute Unilateral Eye Pain
18 Aug 2021

Editorial Board
18 Aug 2021

Evaluation of the immune response to COVID-19 vaccine mRNA BNT162b2 and correlation with previous COVID-19 infection
20 Aug 2021

Clinical evaluation of the molecular-based BD SARS-CoV-2/flu for the BD MAX™ System
20 Aug 2021
Evaluation of six commercial SARS-CoV-2 rapid antigen tests in nasopharyngeal swabs: better knowledge for better patient management?
20 Aug 2021

Development of the RealTime SARS-CoV-2 quantitative Laboratory Developed Test and correlation with viral culture as a measure of infectivity
17 Aug 2021

JC and Human polyomavirus 9 after kidney transplantation: an exploratory serological cohort study
16 Aug 2021

Journal of Hospital Infection

Three-Year Hand Hygiene Monitoring and impact of real-time reminders on compliance
21 Aug 2021
Hand hygiene remains both the major strategy and an ongoing challenge for infection control. The main issues in the sustainability of hand hygiene automatic monitoring are healthcare worker (HCW) turnover rates and declining participation. In this study we had the opportunity to observe hand hygiene compliance over three years, with the intervention of a real-time reminder system

Biofilm Formation by Uropathogenic Escherichia coli: A Complicating Factor for Treatment and Recurrence of Urinary Tract Infections
21 Aug 2021
Uropathogenic Escherichia coli (UPEC) are the principal cause of urinary tract infections (UTIs) which can be either hospital- or community-acquired. The most crucial factor in the persistence and recurrence of UTIs is the biofilm formation ability of UPEC, which protects them against antimicrobial treatment.

Healthcare-associated infections and antibiotic use in long-term care residents from two geographical regions in Switzerland
21 Aug 2021
The burden of healthcare-associated infections (HAI) and antimicrobial use in Swiss long-term care facilities (LTCF) is currently unknown. We assessed the prevalence of HAI and antibiotic use among LTCF residents in Switzerland.

Meticillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus transmission among healthcare workers, patients and the environment in a large acute hospital under non-outbreak conditions investigated using whole-genome sequencing
21 Aug 2021
The role of MRSA colonization of healthcare workers (HCWs), patients and the hospital environment in MRSA transmission in non-outbreak settings is poorly understood.

Hospital outbreak of New Delhi Metallo-β-Lactamase type-1 (NDM-1) in Salmonella enterica with inter-species plasmid transmission
21 Aug 2021
New Delhi Metallo-β-lactamase (NDM) gene confers high-level resistance to an array of β-lactams including carbapenems. Short- and long-read sequencing was used to investigate outbreaks of NDM-positive Enterobacterales including a potential horizontal gene transfer (HGT) event of a NDM-positive plasmid between Salmonella enterica and Klebsiella pneumoniae

Thermal disinfection at sub-optimal temperature of Pseudomonas aeruginosa biofilm on copper pipe and shower hose materials
Hospital acquired infections caused by Pseudomonas aeruginosa have been linked to contaminated shower systems in healthcare. Thermal disinfection whereby colonised outlets are flushed with existing hot water supplies is a commonly used method to disinfect contaminated systems. Temperatures of 60°C are recommended for inactivation of P. aeruginosa; however, this is often not achievable at outlets.

The consumption of anti-MRSA antibiotics in Swiss hospitals is associated with antibiotic stewardship measures

Consumption of antibiotics active against methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) has been described in numerous European studies. However, the underlying predictors of consumption are still poorly understood.

Enterobacter cloacae complex outbreak in a neonatal intensive care unit: multifacet investigations and preventive measures are needed

We report the investigation to control an Enterobacter cloacae complex outbreak in a NICU from November 2020 to February 2021. Pulsed-field gel electrophoresis showed that 5/8 cases were infected with a clonal strain. Breast pumps, shared among mothers in the unit, could have contributed to the spread of the clonal spread.

Identifying drivers for user preference and acceptability of different hydro alcoholic hand rub formulations

In the current era, the importance of proper hand hygiene to reduce the transmission of infectious diseases has become difficult to debate. Yet, compliance rates remain low and are affected by many factors amongst which user acceptability of hand hygiene products.

A Danish Hospital Outbreak of SARS-CoV-2. Combining WGS with epidemiological links offers surprising new information

In relation to a recent paper describing transmission of SARS-CoV-2 among healthcare workers and patients in a teaching hospital in the Netherlands confirmed by whole-genome sequencing [1], we are sharing our experiences with a large hospital outbreak of SARS-CoV-2.

Exploring healthcare worker attitudes on peripheral vascular catheter management to facilitate policy implementation

Healthcare associated infections (HAI) contribute significantly to morbidity and mortality and are an ever growing challenge for infection, prevention and control in our hospitals. Bloodstream infections (BSI), in particular, remain a core focus of infection prevention policy measures given the ensuing consequences and high mortality rate [1].
Influenza is associated with considerable morbidity and mortality, even more so in specific populations, including patients aged 65 years and older [1], children younger than 5 years old (especially those younger than 2 years) [2–4], pregnant woman, patients with chronic illnesses [5], and immunocompromised patients [6].

Cytokine levels in sputum, not serum, may be more helpful for indicating the damage in the lung and the prognosis of severe COVID-19 – A Case Series

19 Aug 2021

To describe the relationship between the severity of lung damage and cytokine levels in sputum, bronchoalveolar lavage fluid (BALF), serum.

The Delta SARS-CoV-2 variant has a higher viral load than the Beta and the historical variants in nasopharyngeal samples from newly diagnosed COVID-19

19 Aug 2021

Evidence of the reduction of acute circulating communicable viruses during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in London.

19 Aug 2021

To the Editor,

Clinical, radiographic features and long-term outcomes of paradoxical cryptococcosis-associated immune reconstitution inflammatory syndrome secondary to the ventriculoperitoneal shunt

19 Aug 2021

Paradoxical immune reactions in cryptococcal meningitis (CM), also termed as cryptococcal-immune reconstitution inflammatory syndrome (C-IRIS), occurs in 13%–30% of immunodeficiency individuals with CM receiving antifungal therapy and antiretroviral therapy (ART).

Influenza and Anosmia: important prediction factors for severity and death of COVID-19

18 Aug 2021

Dear editor,

Evidence of the reduction of acute circulating communicable viruses during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in London.

19 Aug 2021

To the Editor,

Clinical, radiographic features and long-term outcomes of paradoxical cryptococcosis-associated immune reconstitution inflammatory syndrome secondary to the ventriculoperitoneal shunt

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Influenza and Anosmia: important prediction factors for severity and death of COVID-19

18 Aug 2021

To the Editor,

Genesis, Evolution and Host Species Distribution of influenza A (H10N3) Virus in China

17 Aug 2021

A recent article by Wang in the Journal of Infection (1) confirmed the first case of human infection with H10N3 avian influenza virus (AIV) in Zhenjiang, Jiangsu Province, China, in April 2021. Transmission of H10 subtype AIVs from birds to humans is uncommon but has occurred in history. The first reported human infections with an H10 subtype influenza virus occurred in Egypt in 2004 (2).

False positive rapid antigen tests for SARS-CoV-2 in the real-world and their economic burden

17 Aug 2021

Ladhani and coworkers reported in this journal that false positive SARS-CoV-2 assays may cause serious complications for elderly care homes (1). In their report they presented a number of such false-positive cases that had a significant impact on the care homes, including a temporary unnecessary isolation of vulnerable residents and a loss of workforce leading to reduced care provision.

Journal of Infectious Diseases

What Do Diagnoses of Pelvic Inflammatory Disease in Specialist Sexual Health Services in England Tell Us About Chlamydia Control?

16 Aug 2021
Abstract

Background
Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) is an outcome measure for the evaluation of chlamydia screening programs. We explore PID diagnoses in specialist sexual health services (SSHSs) in England to inform the evaluation of the National Chlamydia Screening Programme, which was implemented nationally in 2008.

Chlamydia trachomatis, Pelvic Inflammatory Disease, and Epithelial Ovarian Cancer
16 Aug 2021

Abstract

Epidemiologic, clinical, molecular and translational research findings support an interrelationship between Chlamydia trachomatis, pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), and epithelial ovarian cancer (EOC). Overall, the link between C. trachomatis, PID, and EOC seems to be relatively weak, although nondifferential misclassification bias may have attenuated the results.

Preclinical Testing of Vaccines and Therapeutics for Gonorrhea in Female Mouse Models of Lower and Upper Reproductive Tract Infection
16 Aug 2021

Abstract

Murine models of Neisseria gonorrhoeae lower reproductive tract infection are valuable systems for studying N. gonorrhoeae adaptation to the female host and immune responses to infection. These models have also accelerated preclinical testing of candidate therapeutic and prophylactic products against gonorrhea. However, because N.

A Review of the Challenges and Complexities in the Diagnosis, Etiology, Epidemiology, and Pathogenesis of Pelvic Inflammatory Disease
16 Aug 2021

Abstract

Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) is a syndrome that causes substantial morbidity, including chronic pelvic pain, to women globally. While limited data are available from low- and middle-income countries, national databases from the United States and Europe suggest that PID incidence may be decreasing but the rate of decrease may differ by the etiologic cause.

Tumor Necrosis Factor Alpha-Induced Interleukin-1 Alpha Synthesis and Cell Death Is Increased in Mouse Epithelial Cells Infected With Chlamydia muridarum
16 Aug 2021

Abstract

Chlamydia trachomatis-genital infection in women can be modeled in mice using Chlamydia muridarum. Using this model, it has been shown that the cytokines tumor necrosis factor (TNF)α and interleukin (IL)-1α lead to irreversible tissue damage in the oviducts. In this study, we investigated the contribution of TNFα on IL-1α synthesis in infected epithelial cells.

A Commentary on Current Diagnostic Challenges and Research Needs for Evaluating Reproductive Sequelae of Sexually Transmitted Infections
16 Aug 2021

Abstract

Advancing the understanding of pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) requires access to advanced diagnostic approaches for evaluating reproductive sequelae of sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Current limitations of clinical criteria and advanced imaging technologies for diagnosing reproductive sequelae make diagnosis and surveillance of PID a challenge.

What Can Serology Tell Us About the Burden of Infertility in Women Caused by Chlamydia?
16 Aug 2021

Abstract

Chlamydiatrachomatis (CT) causes pelvic inflammatory disease, which may result in tubal factor infertility (TFI) in women. Serologic assays may be used to determine the proportion of women with and without TFI who have had previous CT infection and to generate estimates of infertility attributable to chlamydia.


Abstract

Background Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) is an infection of the upper genital tract that has important reproductive consequences to women. We describe the burden of and trends in PID among reproductive-aged women in the United States during 2006–2016.

Is There a Hidden Burden of Disease as a Result of Epigenetic Epithelial-to-Mesenchymal Transition Following Chlamydia trachomatis Genital Tract Infection?

Abstract

Chlamydia trachomatis (CT), the most common bacterial sexually transmitted infection worldwide, has been widely researched for its involvement in many disease pathologies in the reproductive tract, including pelvic inflammatory disease, ectopic pregnancy, and tubal factor infertility.

Bacterial Vaginosis and Behavioral Factors Associated With Incident Pelvic Inflammatory Disease in the Longitudinal Study of Vaginal Flora

Abstract

Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) leads to long-term reproductive consequences for cisgender women. Bacterial vaginosis (BV) and behavioral factors may play a role in PID pathogenesis. We assessed associations between BV, behavioral factors, and incident PID.

Using Innovation to Address Adolescent and Young Adult Health Disparities in Pelvic Inflammatory Disease: Design of the Technology Enhanced Community Health Precision Nursing (TECH-PN) Trial

Abstract

New approaches to pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) care among adolescents and young adults (AYAs) that optimize self-care and personalize treatment are warranted to address age and racial-ethnic PID-related health disparities.

Etiology and Diagnosis of Pelvic Inflammatory Disease: Looking Beyond Gonorrhea and Chlamydia

Abstract

Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) is a clinical syndrome that has been associated with a wide range of potential causal pathogens. Three broad groups of organisms have been isolated from the genital tract of people with PID: sexually transmitted organisms such as Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Mycoplasma genitalium, and Trichomonas vaginalis; bacterial vaginosis.

Molecular Characterization of Microbes in the Female Upper Genital Tract: A Valiant Quest to “Redefine” Pelvic Inflammatory Disease

Abstract

Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) is a clinical syndrome that has been associated with a wide range of potential causal pathogens. Three broad groups of organisms have been isolated from the genital tract of people with PID: sexually transmitted organisms such as Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Chlamydia trachomatis, Mycoplasma genitalium, and Trichomonas vaginalis; bacterial vaginosis.

Gonococcal Pelvic Inflammatory Disease: Placing Mechanistic Insights Into the Context of Clinical and Epidemiological Observations

Abstract

While infection by Neisseria gonorrhoeae is often asymptomatic in women, undetected infections can ascend into the upper genital tract to elicit an inflammatory response that manifests as pelvic inflammatory disease, with the outcomes depending on the intensity and duration of inflammation and whether it is localized to the endometrial, fallopian tube, ovarian, and/or other tissues.
Host Genetic Risk Factors for Chlamydia trachomatis-Related Infertility in Women
16 Aug 2021
AbstractBackground Chlamydia trachomatis (Ct) infection ascending to the upper genital tract can cause infertility. Direct association of genetic variants as contributors is challenging because infertility may not be diagnosed until years after infection. Investigating the intermediate trait of ascension bridges this gap.

The Continued Challenges in the Diagnosis of Acute Pelvic Inflammatory Disease: Focus on Clinically Mild Disease
16 Aug 2021
Abstract Many women with lower genital tract infections associated with sexually transmitted pathogens have evidence of upper genital tract inflammation despite the absence of symptoms and signs traditionally associated with pelvic inflammatory disease (PID).

Multipeptide Assays for Sensitive and Differential Detection of Anti-Chlamydia Trachomatis Antibodies
16 Aug 2021
Abstract Detection of anti-Chlamydia trachomatis (Ctr) antibodies is compromised by cross-reactivity and poor sensitivity of classic Ctr-antigens. We discovered 48 strongly reactive peptide antigens of Ctr-specific B-cell epitopes from 21 immunodominant proteins. In this study, we review the utility of peptide assays for diagnosis of Ctr infections.

Immune Responses to Neisseria gonorrhoeae: Challenges and Opportunities With Respect to Pelvic Inflammatory Disease
16 Aug 2021
Abstract Pelvic inflammatory disease and infertility frequently develop after female genital tract infection with Neisseria gonorrhoeae, but determining their etiology from among various possibilities presents difficulties.

Journal of Microbiology, Immunology and Infection

Source identification of HIV-1 transmission in three lawsuits Using Ultra-Deep pyrosequencing and phylogenetic analysis
20 Aug 2021
Publication date: August 2021Source: Journal of Microbiology, Immunology and Infection, Volume 54, Issue 4Author(s): Wei-You Li, Szu-Wei Huang, Sheng-Fan Wang, Hsin-Fu Liu, Chih-Hung Chou, Shang-Jung Wu, Hsien-Da Huang, Po-Liang Lu, Cathy S.J. Fann, Marcelo Chen, Yen-Hsu Chen, Yi-Ming Arthur Chen

Genetic analysis and plasmid-mediated blaCMY-2 in Salmonella and Shigella and the Ceftriaxone Susceptibility regulated by the ISEcp-1 tnpA-blaCMY-2-blc-sugE
20 Aug 2021
Publication date: August 2021Source: Journal of Microbiology, Immunology and Infection, Volume 54, Issue 4Author(s): Cheng-Hsun Chiu, Jen-Jain Lee, Mei-Hui Wang, Chishih Chu

Activation of apoptosis by Salmonella pathogenicity island-1 effectors through both intrinsic and extrinsic pathways in Salmonella-infected macrophages
20 Aug 2021
Publication date: August 2021Source: Journal of Microbiology, Immunology and Infection, Volume 54, Issue 4Author(s): Hsien-Hung Lin, Hsiu-Ling Chen, Chang-Ching Weng, Rajendra Prasad Janapatla, Chyi-Liang Chen, Cheng-Hsun Chiu

Effects of lactoferrin on infectious diseases in Japanese summer: A randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled trial
20 Aug 2021
Clinical characteristics and relevance of coagulase-negative Staphylococci other than S. epidermidis by positive blood culture

Prevalence of B. pertussis infection in children with clinically suspected pertussis

Antimicrobial resistance comparison of Klebsiella pneumoniae pathogens isolated from intra-abdominal and urinary tract infections in different organs, hospital departments and regions of China between 2014 and 2017

The first imported case of extensively drug-resistant Salmonella enterica serotype Typhi infection in Taiwan and the antimicrobial therapy

Lactobacillus rhamnosus sepsis associated with probiotic therapy in an extremely preterm infant: Pathogenesis and a review for clinicians

Altered chemokine profile in Refractory Mycoplasma pneumoniae pneumonia infected children

Molecular epidemiology and resistance patterns of blaOXA-48 Klebsiella pneumoniae and Escherichia coli: A nationwide multicenter study in Taiwan

In vitro susceptibility of ceftaroline against clinically important Gram-positive cocci, Haemophilus species and Klebsiella pneumoniae in
Elbasvir/grazoprevir is effective and tolerable for the treatment of HCV GT1-infected patients: A real world multicenter observatory study in Taiwan

Detection and genotyping of Giardia duodenalis from cattle and pigs in Hualien country, Eastern Taiwan

Effectiveness of rapid multiplex polymerase chain reaction for early diagnosis and treatment of pertussis

Association of vitamin D levels and risk of latent tuberculosis in the hemodialysis population

The first isolation and molecular characterization of Mycoplasma capricolum subsp. capripneumoniae Pakistan strain: A causative agent of contagious caprine pleuropneumonia

Clinical characteristics of echovirus 11 and coxsackievirus B5 infections in Taiwanese children requiring hospitalization

Loss of HPV type 16 E7 restores cGAS-STING responses in human papilloma virus-positive oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinomas cells

Loss of core fucosylation suppressed the humoral immune response in Salmonella typhimurium infected mice
Detection of S83V GyrA mutation in quinolone-resistant Shewanella algae using comparative genomics

Identifying predictors for bacterial and fungal coinfection on chest computed tomography in patients with Pneumocystis pneumonia

The first study to detect coinfection of Entamoeba gingivalis and periodontitis-associated bacteria in dental patients in Taiwan

Journal of Virology Current Issue

A New Type of Satellite associated with Cassava Mosaic Begomoviruses

Two cross-protective antigen sites on foot-and-mouth disease virus serotype O structurally revealed by broadly neutralizing antibodies from cattle

Cellular protein HuR regulates the switching of genomic RNA template for differential function during Coxsackievirus B3 life cycle

Aminopeptidase N is an entry co-factor triggering porcine deltacoronavirus entry via an endocytic pathway

Synergistic block of SARS-CoV-2 infection by combined drug inhibition of the host entry factors PIKfyve kinase and TMPRSS2 protease

Establishment of Full-length cDNA Clones and an Efficient Oral Infection Model for Feline Coronavirus in Cats
Redondovirus diversity and evolution on global, individual, and molecular scales
18 Aug 2021
Journal of Virology, Volume 0, Issue ja, -Not available-

The Borna disease virus (BoDV) 2 nucleoprotein is a conspecific protein that enhances BoDV-1 RNA-dependent RNA polymerase activity
18 Aug 2021
Journal of Virology, Volume 0, Issue ja, -Not available-

Tombusviruses target a major crossroad in the endocytic and recycling pathways via co-opting Rab7 small GTPase
18 Aug 2021
Journal of Virology, Volume 0, Issue ja, -Not available-

Deletion of A137R gene from the pandemic strain of African swine fever virus is attenuated and offers protection against virulent pandemic virus
18 Aug 2021
Journal of Virology, Volume 0, Issue ja, -Not available-

TMPRSS2 activates hemagglutinin-esterase glycoprotein of influenza C virus
18 Aug 2021
Journal of Virology, Volume 0, Issue ja, -Not available-

Natural isolate and recombinant SARS-CoV-2 rapidly evolve in vitro to higher infectivity through more efficient binding to heparan sulfate and reduced S1/S2 cleavage.
18 Aug 2021
Journal of Virology, Volume 0, Issue ja, -Not available-

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Journal of Virology: Articles Published Ahead of Print

Two cross-protective antigen sites on foot-and-mouth disease virus serotype O structurally revealed by broadly neutraliz...
18 Aug 2021

Foot-and-mouth disease virus (FMDV) is a highly contagious virus that infects cloven-hoofed animals. Neutralizing antibodies play critical roles in antiviral infection. Although five known antigen sites that induce neutralizing antibodies have been ... Cellular protein HuR regulates the switching of genomic RNA template for differential function during Coxsackievirus B3 ... 18 Aug 2021

The Coxsackievirus B3 (CVB3) is an enterovirus belonging to the family Picornaviridae. Its 5' UTR contains a cloverleaf structure followed by an Internal Ribosome Entry Site (IRES). The cloverleaf forms an RNA-protein complex known to regulate virus ... Synergistic block of SARS-CoV-2 infection by combined drug inhibition of the host entry factors PIKfyve kinase and TMPRS...
18 Aug 2021

Repurposing FDA-approved inhibitors able to prevent infection by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) could provide a rapid path to establish new therapeutic options to mitigate the effects of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), ... The Borna disease virus (BoDV) 2 nucleoprotein is a conspecific protein that enhances BoDV-1 RNA-dependent RNA polymeras...
18 Aug 2021

An RNA virus-based episomal vector (REVec) based on Borna disease virus 1 (BoDV-1) is a promising viral vector that achieves stable and long-term gene expression in transduced cells. However, the onerous procedure of reverse genetics used to generate a ...
Deletion of A137R gene from the pandemic strain of African swine fever virus is attenuated and offers protection against...
18 Aug 2021
African swine fever virus (ASFV) is causing a devastating pandemic in domestic and wild swine within an extended geographical area from Central Europe to East Asia resulting in economic losses for the regional swine industry. There are no commercial ...

Natural isolate and recombinant SARS-CoV-2 rapidly evolve in vitro to higher infectivity through more efficient binding ...
18 Aug 2021
One of the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) virulence factors is the ability to interact with high affinity to the ACE2 receptor, which mediates viral entry into cells. The results of our study demonstrate that within a few ...

Lancet

[Correspondence] Revisiting the evidence for physical distancing, face masks, and eye protection
20 Aug 2021
Derek Chu and colleagues reported that face mask wearing in hospitals and health-care settings reduces risk of respiratory infection.1 Surprisingly, this recommendation was extended to the general population. Summary estimates were calculated using results of three severe acute respiratory syndrome studies, of which only two yielded statistically significant results

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

Disparities in Excess Mortality Associated with COVID-19 - United States, 2020
19 Aug 2021
This report describes excess mortality rates associated with COVID-19 among older people and certain racial/ethnic minority groups.

Notes from the Field: Vitamin D-Deficient Rickets and Severe Hypocalcemia in Infants Fed Homemade Alkaline Diet Formula - Three States, August 2020-February 2021
19 Aug 2021
This report describes vitamin D deficiency and hypocalcemia in infants fed homemade formula.

Erratum: Vol. 70, No. 30
19 Aug 2021
MMWR erratum volume 70, number 30.

Protracted, Intermittent Outbreak of Salmonella Mbandaka Linked to a Restaurant - Michigan, 2008-2019
19 Aug 2021
This report describes an outbreak of Salmonella Mbandaka at a restaurant in Michigan.

Use of Rapid Antigen Testing for SARS-CoV-2 in Remote Communities - Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Region, Alaska, September 15, 2020-March 1, 2021
19 Aug 2021
This report describes the use of COVID-19 rapid antigen testing in remote Alaskan communities.

Erratum: Vol. 70, No. 27
19 Aug 2021
QuickStats: Age-Adjusted Percentage of Adults Aged ≥65 Years Who Have a Lot of Difficulty Hearing or Cannot Hear at All Even When Using Hearing Aids, by Urbanization Level - National Health Interview Survey, United States, 2019
19 Aug 2021
This report describes the percentage of adults aged ≥65 years who have difficulty hearing or who can't hear even when using hearing aids.

Sustained Effectiveness of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna Vaccines Against COVID-19 Associated Hospitalizations Among Adults - United States, March-July 2021
18 Aug 2021
COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness against hospitalizations was stable for people who received 2 doses, and vaccines remained effective among people with risk for severe COVID-19.

Effectiveness of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna Vaccines in Preventing SARS-CoV-2 Infection Among Nursing Home Residents Before and During Widespread Circulation of the SARS-CoV-2 B.1.617.2 (Delta) Variant - National Healthcare Safety Network, March 1-August 1, 2021
18 Aug 2021
COVID-19 mRNA vaccines, Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna, are effective against infection among nursing home residents, but effectiveness declined in recent months.

New COVID-19 Cases and Hospitalizations Among Adults, by Vaccination Status - New York, May 3-July 2021
18 Aug 2021
COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness against hospitalizations was stable, but it declined against new infections among adults in New York during May-July 2021.

Nature Reviews Microbiology - Current Issue

Hitchhiking measles virus
18 Aug 2021
Nature Reviews Microbiology, Published online: 18 August 2021; doi:10.1038/s41579-021-00629-1 A study in human airway epithelial cells shows that measles virus forms infectious centres, which detach and might promote transmission.

Bacterial longevity
18 Aug 2021
Nature Reviews Microbiology, Published online: 18 August 2021; doi:10.1038/s41579-021-00628-2 A 1,000-day experiment explored bacterial longevity under nutrient starvation.

A new twist on trypanosome development
18 Aug 2021
Nature Reviews Microbiology, Published online: 18 August 2021; doi:10.1038/s41579-021-00627-3 This trypanosome study shows that slender parasites can infect and develop in flies, expanding our understanding of the trypanosome life cycle.

An uneven race: genome editing for parasitic worms
17 Aug 2021
Nature Reviews Microbiology, Published online: 17 August 2021; doi:10.1038/s41579-021-00625-5 This month’s Genome Watch highlights recent advances in genome editing of parasitic worms that affect one-fifth of humans globally.

New England Journal of Medicine - Current Issue

Myocarditis after Covid-19 mRNA Vaccination

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18 Aug 2021
New England Journal of Medicine, Ahead of Print.

**Breakthrough Infections in BNT162b2-Vaccinated Health Care Workers**

18 Aug 2021
New England Journal of Medicine, Ahead of Print.

**Early Convalescent Plasma for High-Risk Outpatients with Covid-19**

18 Aug 2021
New England Journal of Medicine, Ahead of Print.

**Pan-Sarbecovirus Neutralizing Antibodies in BNT162b2-Immunized SARS-CoV-1 Survivors**

18 Aug 2021
New England Journal of Medicine, Ahead of Print.

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**Scandinavian Journal of Infectious Diseases: Table of Contents**

**Women report more symptoms and impaired quality of life: a survey of Finnish COVID-19 survivors**

19 Aug 2021

**Utility of plasma cell-free DNA detection using homobifunctional imidoesters using a microfluidic system for diagnosing active tuberculosis**

18 Aug 2021

**Evaluation of TB-LAMP assay for detection of Mycobacterium tuberculosis in children**

17 Aug 2021

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**Sexually Transmitted Infection Online First**

**Syphilis and gonorrhoea among people with HIV during pandemic times: a report from Athens, Greece**

19 Aug 2021

In response to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, Greece adopted two nationwide lockdowns (March to May 2020, November 2020 to May 2021). We compared new diagnoses of syphilis and gonorrhoea among people with HIV (mainly men who have sex with men) made in 2020 with those from the previous 2 years in an HIV clinic with 1500 patients in follow-up

**Evidence of changing sexual behaviours and clinical attendance patterns, alongside increasing diagnoses of STIs in MSM and TPSM**

19 Aug 2021

BackgroundDue to rising numbers of STI diagnosis and increasing prevalence of antimicrobial resistance, we explored trends in STI testing frequency and diagnoses, alongside sexual decision making and attitudes concerning condom use and HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) at a large urban UK sexual health clinic

**Chemsex, sexual behaviour and STI-PrEP use among HIV-PrEP users during the COVID-19 pandemic in Brighton, UK**

16 Aug 2021

The COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing restrictions have been associated with changes in use of HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (HIV-PrEP), use of doxycycline as STI-PrEP and sexual behaviour including chemsex behaviour among men who have sex with men (MSM)
Longitudinal uptake of the human papillomavirus vaccine among gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men in British Columbia, Canada 2012-2019
16 Aug 2021
Objectives In 2015, a publicly funded human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination programme was implemented for gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (gbMSM) up to age 26 years in British Columbia, Canada. We assessed trends and correlates of HPV vaccine uptake from 2012 to 2019 in a cohort of gbMSM in Vancouver

Challenges of providing HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis in Martinique, French West Indies
16 Aug 2021
Martinique Island is one of the French regions with the highest incidence of HIV infection. Between 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2020, 122 people attended our clinic for their first pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) visit. Two had an HIV diagnosis, 5 decided not to take PrEP and 115 started PrEP

How did COVID-19 measures impact sexual behaviour and access to HIV/STI services in Panama? Results from a national cross-sectional online survey
16 Aug 2021
Objectives To describe reported changes in sexual behaviours, including virtual sex (sexting and cybersex), and access to HIV/STI testing and care during COVID-19 measures in Panama. Methods We conducted an online cross-sectional survey from 8 August to 12 September 2020 among adults (≥18 years) residing in Panama. Participants were recruited through social media

Sexually Transmitted Infections current issue

Sexual health (excluding reproductive health, intimate partner violence and gender-based violence) and COVID-19: a scoping review
17 Aug 2021
Objectives The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed and exacerbated existing socioeconomic and health disparities, including disparities in sexual health and well-being. While there have been several reviews published on COVID-19 and population health disparities generally—including some with attention to HIV—none has focused on sexual health (ie, STI care, female sexual health, sexual behaviour)

HIV non-occupational postexposure prophylaxis (nPEP) usage among five key populations in China
17 Aug 2021
Objectives To examine the feasibility of non-occupational postexposure prophylaxis (nPEP) as a national strategy for HIV prevention in China, we investigated nPEP usage and related sociodemographic and behavioural factors among five key populations at high risk of contracting HIV

Ask Dr Google: what STI do I have?
17 Aug 2021
Objectives Between 2013 and 2014, a third of Australian adults reported using the internet to investigate medical symptoms before consulting a medical practitioner. However, there is limited evidence regarding internet health information seeking behaviour (HISB) in sexual health. This study aims to determine the frequency, predictors and accuracy of internet HISB for sexual health self-diagnosis

Prevalence and factors associated with HIV epidemic among female sex workers in Pakistan: results of the fifth round of integrated biological and behavioural surveillance
17 Aug 2021
Objectives We examined data collected as part of the fifth round of integrated biological and behavioural surveillance to determine the prevalence and factors associated with HIV infection among female sex workers (FSWs) in Pakistan. Methods FSWs were defined as ‘all females, age 13 years and above, who receive money or goods in exchange for sexual services, regardless of the site of operation’.

Improved sensitivity from pooled urine, pharyngeal and rectal specimens when using a molecular assay for the detection of chlamydia and gonorrhoea near point of care
17 Aug 2021

For populations at risk of Chlamydia trachomatis (CT) and Neisseria gonorrhoeae (NG), regular testing of multiple anatomical sites is recommended. Pooling methods that combine one patient’s anatomical site specimens can reduce cost and workflow burdens.

Research news in clinical context
17 Aug 2021

High efficacy of high dose intravenous ceftriaxone against extragenital gonorrhoea

Ceftriaxone monotherapy is well established for treating Neisseria gonorrhoeae (NG) urethritis, but data are limited for pharyngeal and rectal infections.

Prevalence and clinical characteristics of patients with biologically false-positive reactions with serological syphilis testing in contemporary practice: 10-year experience at a tertiary academic hospital
17 Aug 2021

Objectives Biologically false positive (BFP) reactions are well described in early literature. However, only a few recent reports described the incidence and clinical characteristics of patients with BFP reactions. We reviewed the serological test results of patients tested for syphilis in our hospital in the past decade and described the clinical characteristics of patients with BFP reactions.

Reduced sexual contacts with non-steady partners and less PrEP use among MSM in Belgium during the first weeks of the COVID-19 lockdown: results of an online survey
17 Aug 2021

Objectives To examine changes in the occurrence of physical sex with non-steady partners among men who have sex with men (MSM) in Belgium during the first weeks of the COVID-19 lockdown and associations with sociodemographic factors, sexual practices, drug, alcohol and pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) use. A secondary objective was to explore changes in PrEP use and the need for PrEP follow-up.

Factors associated with sexually transmitted infection diagnosis in women who have sex with women, women who have sex with men and women who have sex with both
17 Aug 2021

Introduction Many US women report same sex behaviour, yet data on risk factors and STIs in women who have sex with women (WSW), women who have sex with both men and women (WSB) and how these compare to women who have sex with men only (WSM) remain limited. Here we compared self-identified WSW, WSB and WSM attending two STI clinics in Baltimore, Maryland.

Factors associated with reporting antibiotic use as STI prophylaxis among HIV PrEP users: findings from a cross-sectional online community survey, May-July 2019, UK
17 Aug 2021

Objectives The use of antibiotics as pre-exposure or postexposure prophylaxis for sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention (STI prophylaxis) is not currently recommended in the UK, but there is evidence that self-prescribing occurs among those at greatest risk.

Molecular screening in a longitudinal cohort of young men who have sex with men and young transgender women: associations with focus on the emerging sexually transmitted pathogen Mycoplasma genitalium
17 Aug 2021
Objectives This investigation sought to characterise risk factors associated with acquisition of traditional and emerging agents of sexually transmitted infection (STI) in a cohort of young men who have sex with men and transgender women.

**Lymphogranuloma venereum genovariants in men having sex with men in Italy**

17 Aug 2021

Objectives Lymphogranuloma venereum (LGV) is an STI caused by Chlamydia trachomatis serovars L1-L3. In Europe, the current epidemic is caused mainly by L2b genovariant, although increasing cases associated with other L2 variants have been reported. Here, we assessed the distribution of rectal LGV genovariants among men having sex with men (MSM) in Italy.

**Incidence and duration of incident oropharyngeal gonorrhea and chlamydia infections among men who have sex with men: prospective cohort study**

17 Aug 2021

Objectives This prospective cohort study aimed to determine the natural history and incidence of oropharyngeal gonorrhea and chlamydia among a cohort of men who have sex with men (MSM) over a 12-week period, and to examine risk factors associated with incident oropharyngeal infections.

**Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination and oropharyngeal HPV in ethnically diverse, sexually active adolescents: community-based cross-sectional study**

17 Aug 2021

Objectives Oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma is the most common human papillomavirus (HPV)-associated cancer in the UK, but little is known about the prevalence of oropharyngeal HPV in sexually active teenagers. We investigated reported HPV vaccination coverage (in females) and prevalence of oropharyngeal HPV in sexually active students attending six technical colleges in London, UK.

**Human alphaherpesvirus 2 (HSV-2) among female sex workers from Brazil: cross-sectional study using respondent-driven sampling**

17 Aug 2021

Objective Female sex workers (FSWs) are vulnerable to human alphaherpesvirus 2 (HSV-2) infection due to their high numbers of sexual partners. The objective of this study was to evaluate the seroprevalence and risk behaviours associated with HSV-2. Methods A cross-sectional study was conducted in Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil.

**Pre-exposure HIV prophylaxis (PrEP) among transgender women: 3 years of follow-up in a university hospital in Paris**

17 Aug 2021

Objectives The principal outcome was to describe clinical characteristics of a transgender male-to-female (TGW) cohort followed for pre-exposure HIV prophylaxis (PrEP). Introduction Few efforts and preventive interventions have targeted transgender population, despite them being at great risk of HIV infection.

**Does providing laboratory confirmed STI results impact uptake of HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) uptake among Kenyan adolescents girls and young women? A descriptive analysis**

17 Aug 2021

In 2018, one-third of incident adult HIV infections in Kenya occurred among adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) aged 15–24 years. 1 2 Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is approved as part of the national HIV prevention interventions. 3 4 AGYW have the lowest uptake of PrEP coupled with high discontinuation rates. 5–7 Sexually transmitted infections are known to increase the risk of HIV acquisition.

**Prevalence of Chlamydia trachomatis and Mycoplasma genitalium coinfections and M. genitalium antimicrobial resistance in rectal specimens**

17 Aug 2021
To the Editor-in-Chief It has recently been reported that 13% of men who have sex with men (MSM) attending a sexual health clinic were coinfected with Chlamydia trachomatis and Mycoplasma genitalium in the rectum, a site that has been described as a reservoir for asymptomatic M. genitalium infection.

NIS Affiliation

PubMed: NIS affiliation

Differential immunogenicity of BNT162b2 or ChAdOx1 vaccines after extended-interval homologous dual vaccination in older people
21 Aug 2021
CONCLUSION: Dual vaccination with BNT162b2 or ChAdOx1 induces strong humoral immunity in older people following an extended interval protocol. Antibody responses are 2.9-times higher following the mRNA regimen whilst cellular responses are 1.4-times higher with the adenovirus-based vaccine. Differential patterns of immunogenicity are therefore elicited from the two vaccine platforms.

Engagement With Daily Testing Instead of Self-Isolating in Contacts of Confirmed Cases of SARS-CoV-2: A Qualitative Analysis
20 Aug 2021
Introduction: In December 2020 and January 2021 Public Health England (PHE) with NHS Test and Trace conducted a study to explore the feasibility and acceptability of daily testing as an alternative to self-isolation following close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case.

Uptake and impact of vaccinating primary school children against influenza: Experiences in the fourth season of the live attenuated influenza vaccination programme, England, 2016/2017
18 Aug 2021
CONCLUSIONS: These results are similar to earlier seasons of the programme indicating the importance and continuing support of vaccinating all primary school children with LAIV to reduce influenza related illness across the population, although further work is needed to understand the differences in excess mortality.

Emergence of SARS-CoV-2 Alpha (B.1.1.7) variant, infection rates, antibody seroconversion and seroprevalence rates in secondary school students and staff: active prospective surveillance, December 2020 to March 2021, England
17 Aug 2021
OBJECTIVES: We assessed SARS-CoV-2 infection, seroprevalence and seroconversion in students and staff when secondary schools reopened in March 2021.

Immunogenicity of single vaccination with BNT162b2 or ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 at 5-6 weeks post vaccine in participants aged 80 years or older: an exploratory analysis
17 Aug 2021
BACKGROUND: In several countries, extended interval COVID-19 vaccination regimens are now used to accelerate population coverage, but the relative immunogenicity of different vaccines in older people remains uncertain.

Hospital-acquired SARS-CoV-2 infection in the UK’s first COVID-19 pandemic wave
15 Aug 2021
No abstract