**Clinical characteristics of 113 deceased patients with coronavirus disease 2019: retrospective study**

**Conclusion** Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 infection can cause both pulmonary and systemic inflammation, leading to multi-organ dysfunction in patients at high risk. Acute respiratory distress syndrome and respiratory failure, sepsis, acute cardiac injury, and heart failure were the most common critical complications during exacerbation of Covid-19.

**Emergency departments and the COVID-19 pandemic: making the most of limited resources**

The Australasian College from Emergency Medicine (ACEM) has developed a free guide for emergency care (EC) clinicians in LMICs preparing for a surge of patients with COVID-19.

**Infographic - updated guidance on PPE**

Guidelines for personal protective equipment for primary and secondary care have been released by Public Health England.

**Infographic – A visual guide to remote consultations with people displaying Covid-19 symptoms**

This graphic, intended for use in a primary care setting, is based on data available in March 2020, much of which is from hospital settings in China. It will be revised as more relevant data emerges.

**Covid-19: a remote assessment in primary care**

Most patients with Covid-19 can be managed remotely with advice on symptomatic management and self-isolation.

**Covid-19: what do trainees need to know?**

Sarah Hallett, chair of the BMA junior doctors committee, answers questions on how the Covid-19 pandemic might affect trainees.

**Managing mental health challenges faced by healthcare workers during Covid-19 pandemic**

Neil Greenberg and colleagues set out measures that healthcare managers need to put in place to protect the mental health of healthcare staff having to make morally challenging decisions.

**Drugs and the renin-angiotensin system in Covid-19**

Clinical effects are unpredictable, so treatment decisions must be tailored and pragmatic.

**Covid-19: Can France’s ethical support units help doctors make challenging decisions?**

France has set up "ethical support units" to help doctors make difficult choices about which patients with Covid-19 to treat in intensive care.

**Treatment of 5 Critically Ill Patients With COVID-19 With Convalescent Plasma**

**Conclusions** In this preliminary uncontrolled case series of 5 critically ill patients with COVID-19 and ARDS, administration of convalescent plasma containing neutralizing antibody was followed by improvement in their clinical status. The limited sample size and study design preclude a definitive statement about the potential effectiveness of this treatment, and these observations require evaluation in clinical trials.

**Management of Critically Ill Adults With COVID-19**

**Discussion** This SSC guideline will be frequently updated online as global evidence accrues, but it reflects the central tenants of best practices for ARDS: low tidal volume strategy, PEEP titration, avoidance of hyperoxia, and a conservative fluid strategy.

**Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: Safe Shopping at Stores and Pharmacies**

Food and medicine shopping is essential during the COVID-19 pandemic, but requires getting out and standing close to strangers at a time when social distancing and sheltering-in-place are recommended to slow spread of disease. David Aronoff, MD, director of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, explains how to minimize COVID-19 risk while shopping.

**Testing Individuals for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)**

Easy-to-understand information on COVID-19 to share with patients and their families.

**Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Infection and Renin Angiotensin System Blockers**

In summary, all guidelines recommend continuing ACEIs/ARBs in patients with COVID-19 unless clinically indicated (Table). Furthermore, they do not suggest initiation of ACEIs/ARBs in those without another clinical indication (eg, hypertension, heart failure, diabetes), given the lack of strong evidence showing benefit of these medications in COVID-19.

**Mental Health Needs of Health Care Workers Providing Frontline COVID-19 Care**

To sustain and restore frontline health care workers, health care organizations and researchers will need to monitor the mental health outcomes of clinicians and other health care workers over time and prioritize the mental and physical health needs and recovery of individuals caring for patients with COVID-19.

**Active and Effective Measures for the Care of Patients With Cancer During the COVID-19 Spread in China**

The measures we are taking may be of great value to help guide patients with cancer smoothly and safely through the epidemic.
Clinical characteristics and outcomes of patients undergoing surgeries during the incubation period of COVID-19 infection

Interpretation In this retrospective cohort study of 34 operative patients with confirmed COVID-19, 15 (44·1%) patients needed ICU care, and the mortality rate was 20·5%.

Impact of school closures for COVID-19 on the US healthcare workforce and net mortality: a modelling study

Interpretation School closures come with many trade-offs, and can create unintended child-care obligations. Our results suggest that the potential contagion prevention from school closures needs to be carefully weighted with the potential loss of health-care workers from the standpoint of reducing cumulative mortality due to COVID-19, in the absence of mitigating measures.

Evolving epidemiology and transmission dynamics of coronavirus disease 2019 outside Hubei province, China: a descriptive and modelling study

Interpretation Our estimates of the incubation period and serial interval were similar, suggesting an early peak of infectiousness, with possible transmission before the onset of symptoms. Our results also indicate that, as the epidemic progressed, infectious individuals were isolated more quickly, thus shortening the window of transmission in the community. Overall, our findings indicate that strict containment measures, movement restrictions, and increased awareness of the population might have contributed to interrupt local transmission of SARS-CoV-2 outside Hubei province.

Estimates of the severity of coronavirus disease 2019: a model-based analysis

Interpretation These early estimates give an indication of the fatality ratio across the spectrum of COVID-19 disease and show a strong age gradient in risk of death.

Clinical and epidemiological features of 36 children with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Zhejiang, China: an observational cohort study

Interpretation Although all paediatric patients in our cohort had mild or moderate type of COVID-19, the large proportion of asymptomatic children indicates the difficulty in identifying paediatric patients who do not have clear epidemiological information, leading to a dangerous situation in community-acquired infections.

The effect of control strategies to reduce social mixing on outcomes of the COVID-19 epidemic in Wuhan, China: a modelling study

Interpretation Restrictions on activities in Wuhan, if maintained until April, would probably help to delay the epidemic peak. Our projections suggest that premature and sudden lifting of interventions could lead to an earlier secondary peak, which could be flattened by relaxing the interventions gradually. However, there are limitations to our analysis, including large uncertainties around estimates of $R_0$ and the duration of infectiousness.

Epidemiology of Covid-19 in a Long-Term Care Facility in King County, Washington

Conclusions In the context of rapidly escalating Covid-19 outbreaks, proactive steps by long-term care facilities to identify and exclude potentially infected staff and visitors, actively monitor for potentially infected patients, and implement appropriate infection prevention and control measures are needed to prevent the introduction of Covid-19.

Covid-19 in Critically Ill Patients in the Seattle Region — Case Series

Conclusions During the first 3 weeks of the Covid-19 outbreak in the Seattle area, the most common reasons for admission to the ICU were hypoxic respiratory failure leading to mechanical ventilation, hypotension requiring vasopressor treatment, or both. Mortality among these critically ill patients was high. (Funded by the National Institutes of Health.)

Renin–Angiotensin–Aldosterone System Inhibitors in Patients with Covid-19

On the basis of the available evidence, we think that, despite the theoretical concerns and uncertainty regarding the effect of RAAS inhibitors on ACE2 and the way in which these drugs might affect the propensity for or severity of Covid-19, RAAS inhibitors should be continued in patients in otherwise stable condition who are at risk for, are being evaluated for, or have Covid-19 (see text box), a position now supported by multiple specialty societies (Table S2).

Covid-19 and Health Care's Digital Revolution

In the face of the Covid-19 outbreak, Americans are waking up to the limitations of their analogue health care system. It seems clear that we need an immediate digital revolution to face this crisis.


This case describes uncomplicated labor and vaginal delivery in a woman with Covid-19. Care was taken to avoid infecting hospital staff, and 7 days after the delivery, no caregivers appeared to be infected. Further information on patient follow-up, procedures, and references is provided in the Supplementary Appendix.

Barrier Enclosure during Endotracheal Intubation

Clinicians with inadequate access to standard personal protective equipment (PPE) have been compelled to improvise protective barrier enclosures for use during endotracheal intubation. We describe one such barrier that is easily fabricated and may help protect clinicians during this procedure.

To request the full text of any of the above click here

This bulletin is produced by BHT Library and Knowledge Services