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Scientific update on COVID-19

Updated on October 13th 2020

Redaction committee

Boris Lacarra – *Inserm, REACTing*

F-Xavier Lescure – *Inserm, AP-HP Bichat, COREB*

Guillaume Mellon – *AP-HP Bichat, COREB*

Inmaculada Ortega Perez – *Inserm, REACTing*

Eric D'Ortenzio – *Inserm, REACTing*

Reviewing committee

Jean-Marc Chaplain – *CHU Rennes, COREB*

Flavie Chatel – *COREB*

Hélène Coignard – *HCL, COREB*

Dominique Costagliola – *Inserm, REACTing*

Marie-Paule Kieny – *Inserm, REACTing*

Quentin Le Hingrat – *Inserm, AP-HP Bichat*

Jean-Christophe Lucet – *Inserm, AP-HP Bichat*

Claire Madelaine – *Inserm, REACTing*

Matthieu Mahevas – *Inserm, AP-HP Henri-Mondor*

Emmanuelle Vidal Petiot – *Inserm, AP-HP Bichat*

Benoit Visseaux – *Inserm, AP-HP Bichat*

The objective of this slideshow is to answer various essential questions related to COVID-19 with the focus on:

- **EPIDEMIOLOGY**
- **VIROLOGY**
- **CLINICAL**
- **THERAPEUTIC**

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EPIDEMIOLOGY

VIROLOGY

CLINICAL

THERAPEUTIC

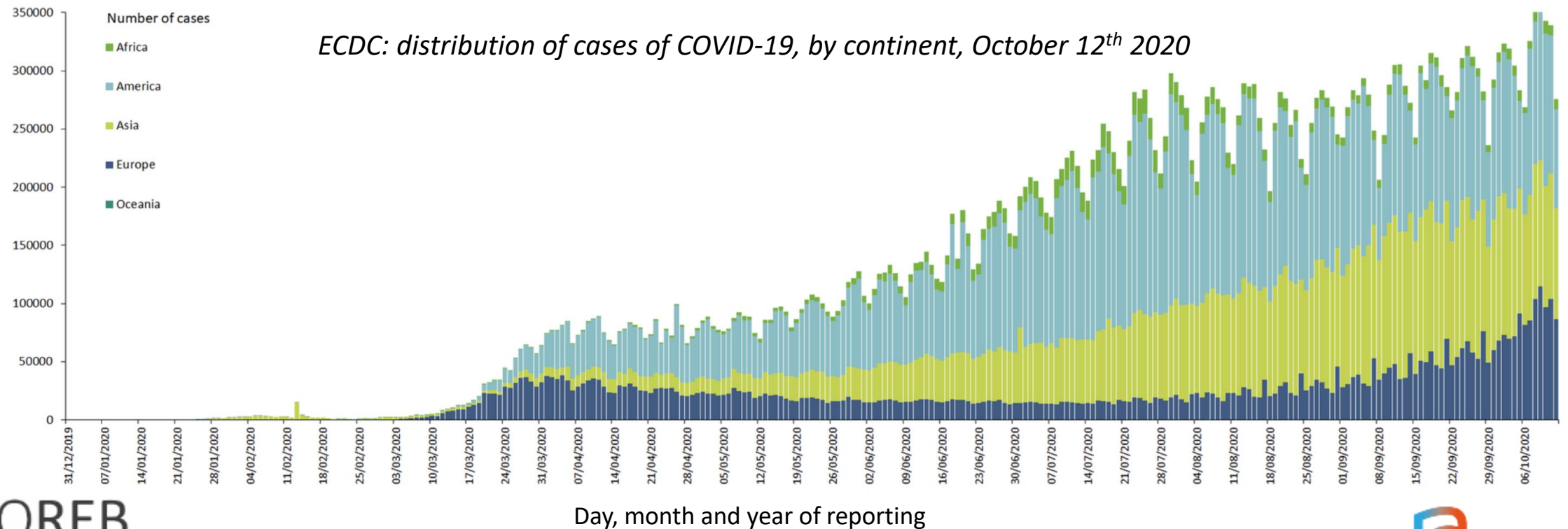
EPIDEMIOLGY

Questions:

- What is the situation in the World?
- What is the incubation period & R_0 ?
- What do we know about the risk of transmission & the mode of transmission?
- What is the impact of the different measures taken by countries?

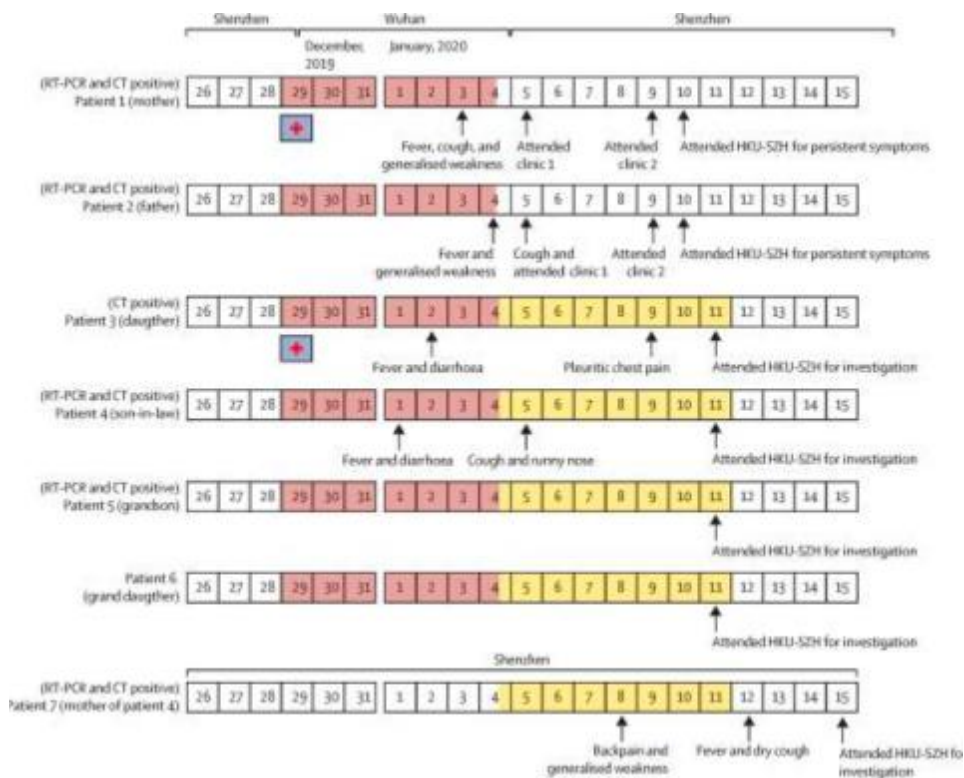
Situation update

- **Santé publique France:** <https://www.santepubliquefrance.fr/maladies-et-traumatismes/maladies-et-infections-respiratoires/infection-a-coronavirus/articles/infection-au-nouveau-coronavirus-sars-cov-2-covid-19-france-et-monde>
- **Johns Hopkins University:** <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/coronavirus-covid-19-global-cases-johns-hopkins-csse>
- **OMS:** <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports/>
- **ECDC :** <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/geographical-distribution-2019-ncov-cases>



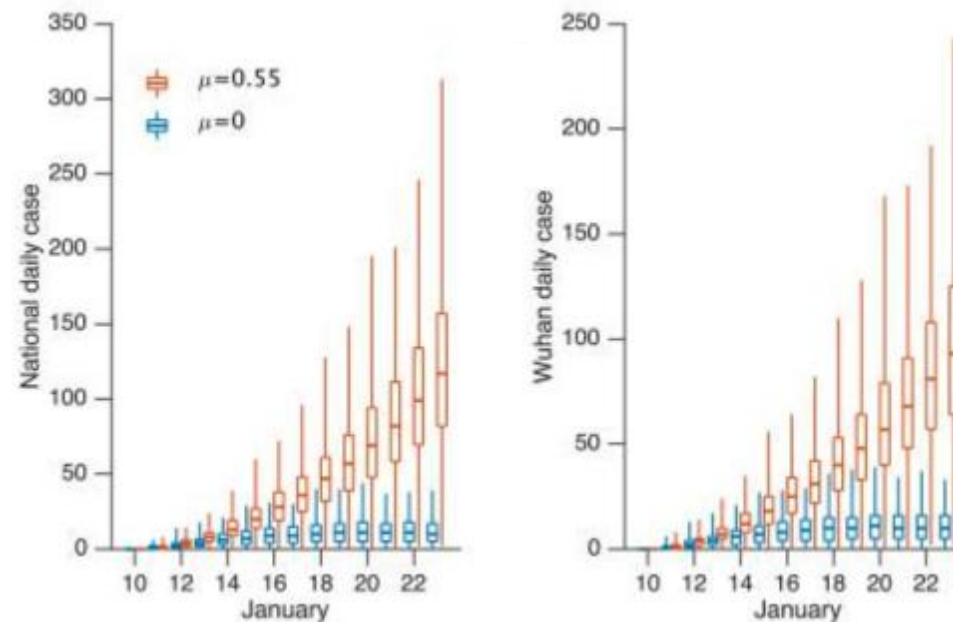
Epidemiology

- Person to person transmission
- Contagious 2 days before symptoms : **pre-symptomatic phase**



Chronology of symptom onset of the family cluster

Daily documented cases – simulation generated using some parameters μ -factor applied to transmission rate due to undocumented infected persons

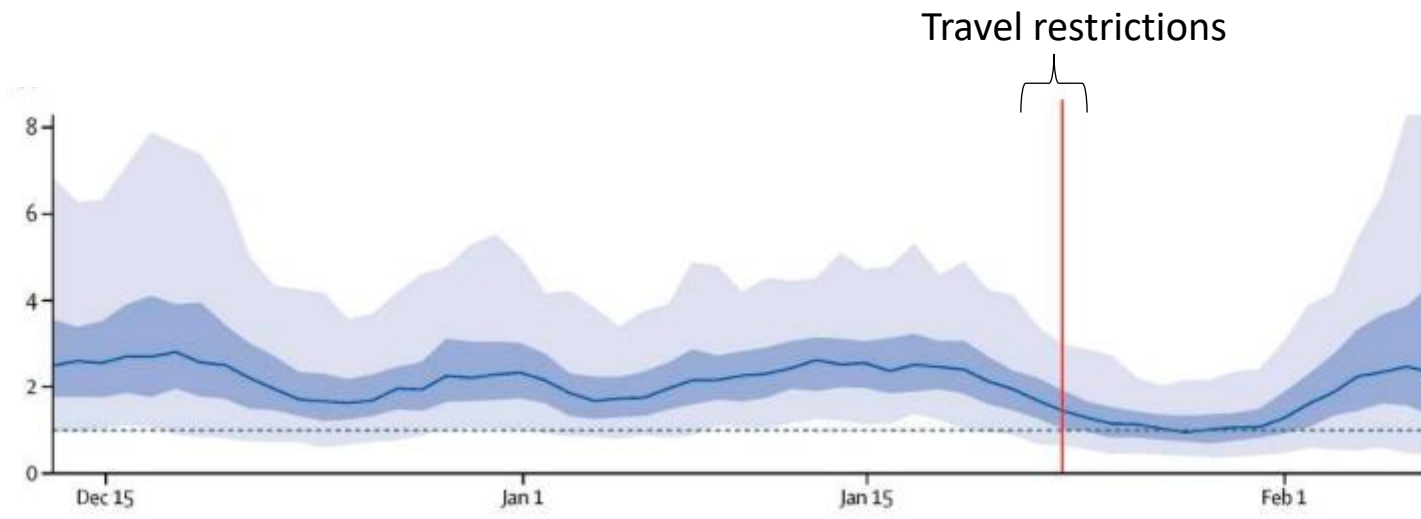


- Very high rate of undocumented infection
 - **Dissemination by undocumented infection** (asymptomatic, presymptomatic...)
 - He and colleagues estimation (slide 35): 44% (CI_{95%} [30 – 57%]) of secondary cases were infected during the index cases' presymptomatic stage
- Infectiousness was estimated to decline quickly within 7 days

Epidemiology

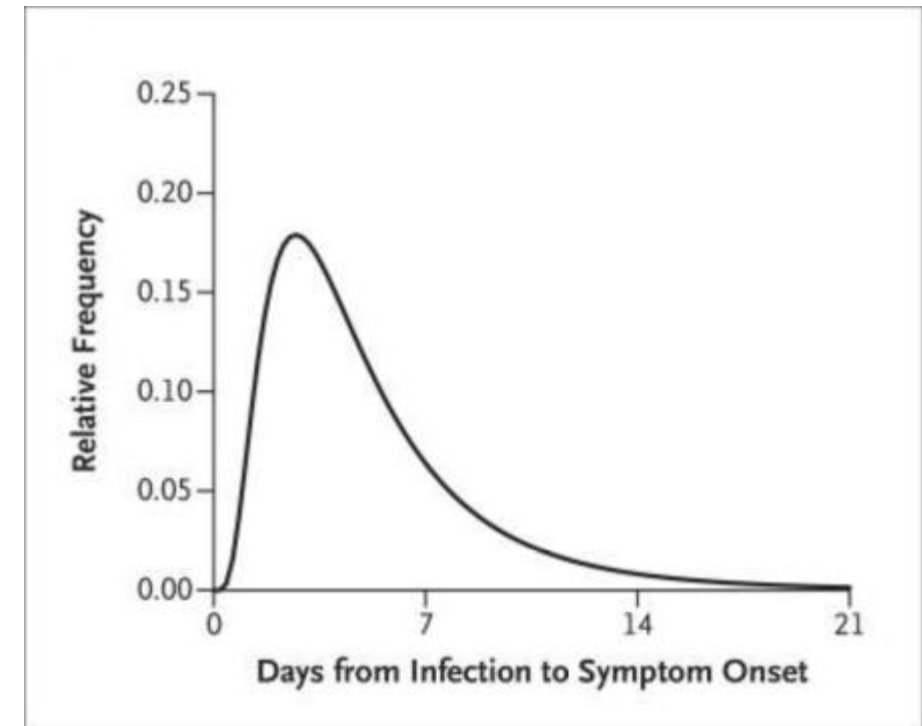
At beginning & before controls measures:

- Basic reproduction number (R_0): 2,2 to 6,4
- R_0 depends on
 - Geographic location
 - Stage of outbreak
- R_e depends on
 - Control measures
- Doubling time : 2,9 to 7,3 days



Estimated R_t over time

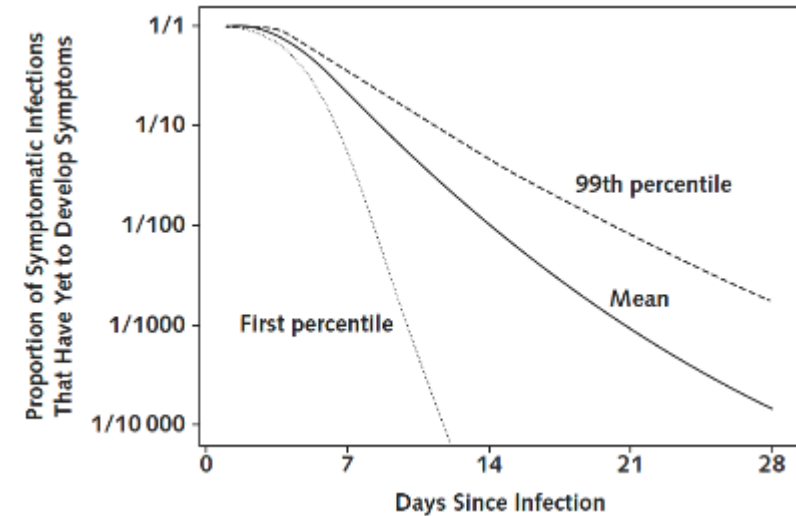
- Incubation period SARS-CoV-2
 - Median: 5 days
 - 2 to 14 days



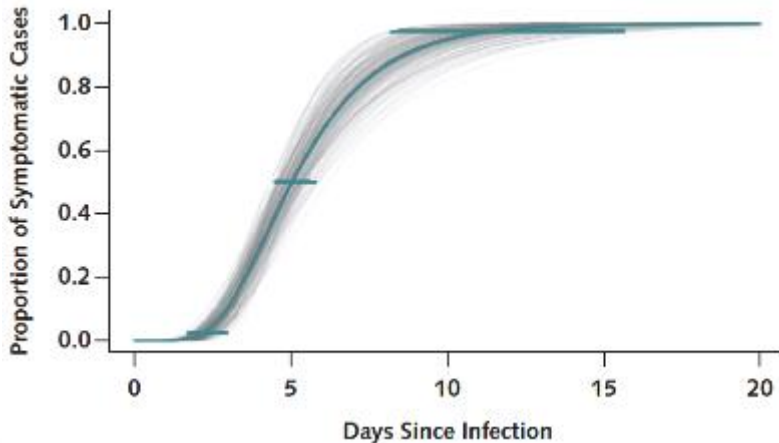
Epidemiology

- 185 cases of confirmed COVID-19 – before Feb 24th
- 24 countries – 89% had recent history of travel to Wuhan
- Median incubation period (days) : 5,1 [4,5 – 5,8]
 - < 2,5% of infected persons will shows symptoms within 2,2 days
 - 97.5% of symptomatic patients developing symptoms within 11.5 days
- Analysis specific for cases detected outside of China
 - Median incubation (days): 5,5 [4,4 – 7,0]
 - 95% range spanning from 2,1 to 14,7 days

- After 14 d → we would not miss a symptomatic infection among high risk persons



Proportion of known symptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infections that have yet to develop symptoms by number of days since infection, using bootstrapped



- High risk = A 1-in-100 chances of developing a symptomatic infection after exposure

Monitoring Duration	Mean Estimated Number of Undetected Symptomatic Infections per 10 000 Monitored Persons (99th Percentile)			
	Low Risk (1 in 10 000)	Medium Risk (1 in 1000)	High Risk (1 in 100)	Infected (1 in 1)
7 d	0.2 (0.4)	2.1 (3.6)	21.2 (36.5)	2120.6 (3648.5)
14 d	0.0 (0.0)	0.1 (0.5)	1.0 (4.8)	100.9 (481.7)
21 d	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.1)	0.1 (0.8)	9.5 (82.5)
28 d	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.2)	1.4 (17.8)

Distanciation measures to prevent transmission

The effects of physical distance, face masks, and eye protection on virus transmission?

Systematic revue (172 studies) & meta-analysis (44 comparatives studies)

16 countries & 6 continents

25 697 patients in the meta-analysis

Included COVID-19, SARS & MERS

Did not identify any randomized trials

Unadjusted, adjusted, frequentist, and bayesian meta-analyses all supported the main findings,

	Studies and participants	Relative effect (95% CI)	Anticipated absolute effect (95% CI), eg, chance of viral infection or transmission		Difference (95% CI)	Certainty*	What happens (standardised GRADE terminology) ²⁹
			Comparison group	Intervention group			
Physical distance ≥1 m vs <1 m	Nine adjusted studies (n=7782); 29 unadjusted studies (n=10736)	aOR 0.18 (0.09 to 0.38); unadjusted RR 0.30 (95% CI 0.20 to 0.44)	Shorter distance, 12.8%	Further distance, 2.6% (1.3 to 5.3)	-10.2% (-11.5 to -7.5)	Moderate†	A physical distance of more than 1 m probably results in a large reduction in virus infection; for every 1 m further away in distancing, the relative effect might increase 2.02 times
Face mask vs no face mask	Ten adjusted studies (n=2647); 29 unadjusted studies (n=10170)	aOR 0.15 (0.07 to 0.34); unadjusted RR 0.34 (95% CI 0.26 to 0.45)	No face mask, 17.4%	Face mask, 3.1% (1.5 to 6.7)	-14.3% (-15.9 to -10.7)	Low‡	Medical or surgical face masks might result in a large reduction in virus infection; N95 respirators might be associated with a larger reduction in risk compared with surgical or similar masks§
Eye protection (faceshield, goggles) vs no eye protection	13 unadjusted studies (n=3713)	Unadjusted RR 0.34 (0.22 to 0.52)¶	No eye protection, 16.0%	Eye protection, 5.5% (3.6 to 8.5)	-10.6% (-12.5 to -7.7)	Low	Eye protection might result in a large reduction in virus infection

Population comprised people possibly exposed to individuals infected with SARS-CoV2, SARS-CoV or MERS-CoV

Physical distancing of 1 m or more → lower transmission of viruses compared with a distance of less than 1 m

Protection was increased as distance was lengthened → **distance of 2 m might be more effective**

The use of face mask → reduction in risk of infection → **wearing face mask protects people**

None of these interventions afforded complete protection from infection

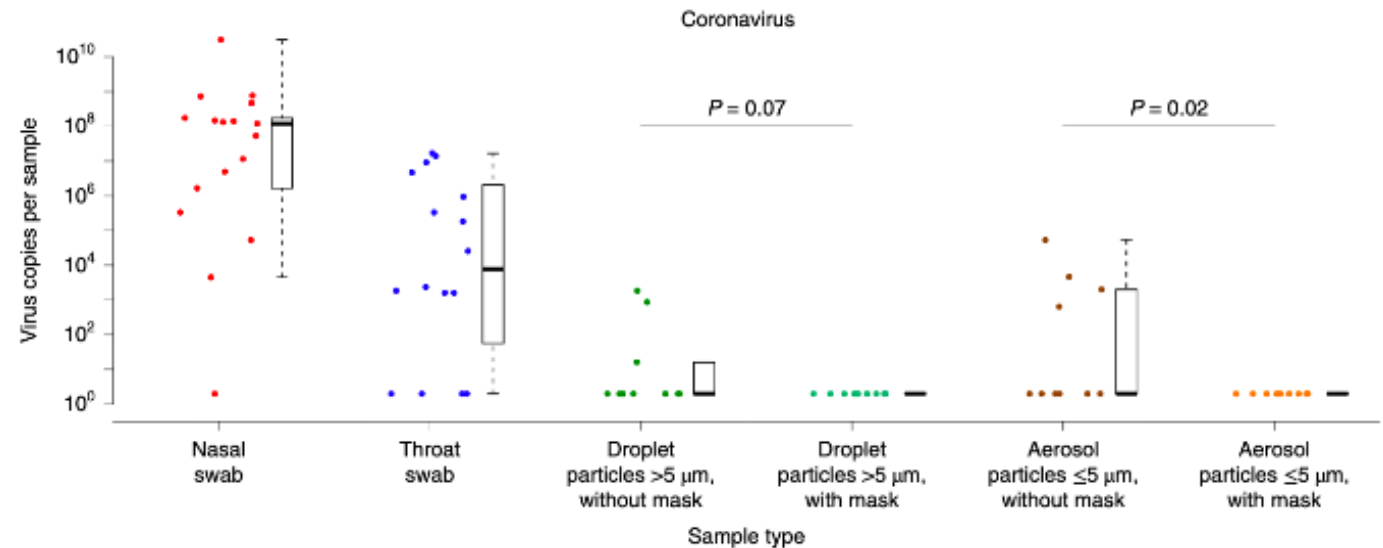
Face masks' effectiveness

- 246 participants
 - 122 without face masks and 124 with face mask
 - Provided exhaled breath samples
- 123 were infected by
 - HCoV (17), influenza (43) and rhinovirus (54)
- Test viral shedding
 - Nasal swab, throat swab
 - Respiratory droplet sample
 - Aerosol sample
- Detection of coronavirus
 - 30% (droplets) and 40% (aerosol) without mask
 - 0 % (droplet or aerosol) with mask

→ Aerosol transmission is possible

→ Face masks reduce coronavirus detection in aerosol (significantly) and respiratory droplet

→ **Face masks could prevent transmission of human coronaviruses and influenza viruses.**



Limits

- Human coronavirus, not SARS-CoV-2
- Large proportion of undetectable viral shedding
- Detected Coronavirus' infectivity not confirmed

Projection - Transmission dynamics

Model of SARS-CoV-2 transmission

Projected that recurrent wintertime outbreaks will probably occur after the initial outbreak

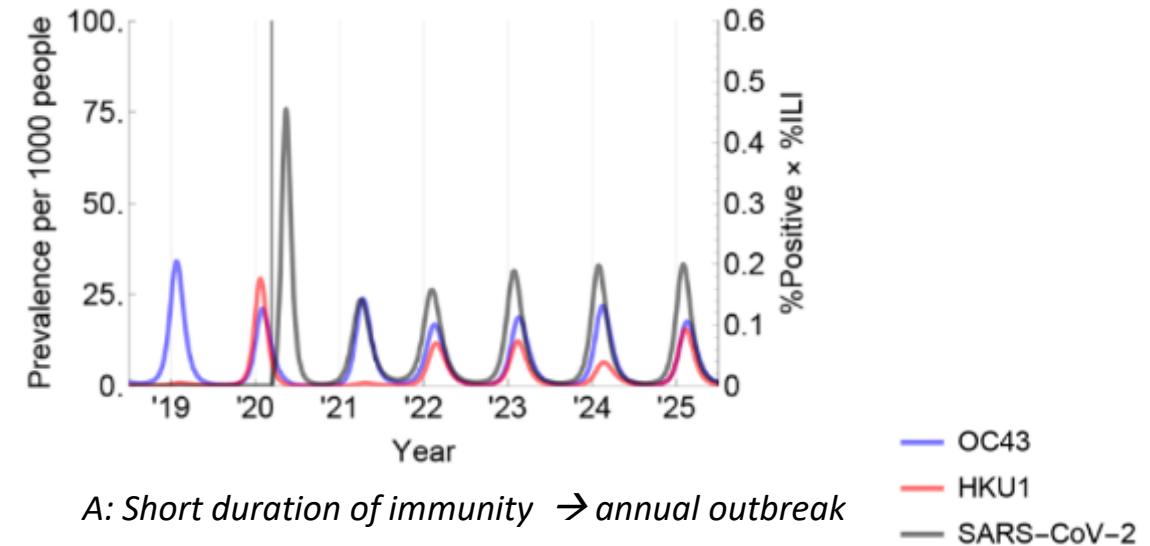
Used estimates of seasonality, immunity and cross-immunity for beta coronaviruses (OC43 & HKU1)

Post-pandemic transmission dynamics will depend on:

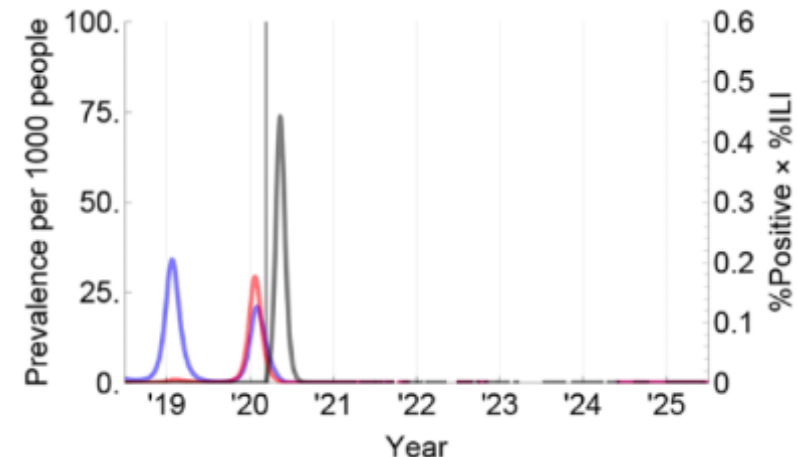
- Degree of season variation in transmission
- Duration of immunity
- Degree of cross-immunity between SARS-CoV-2 and other coronaviruses
- Intensity and timing of control measures

Presentation of different scenarios

Invasion scenario for SARS-CoV-2 in temperate regions



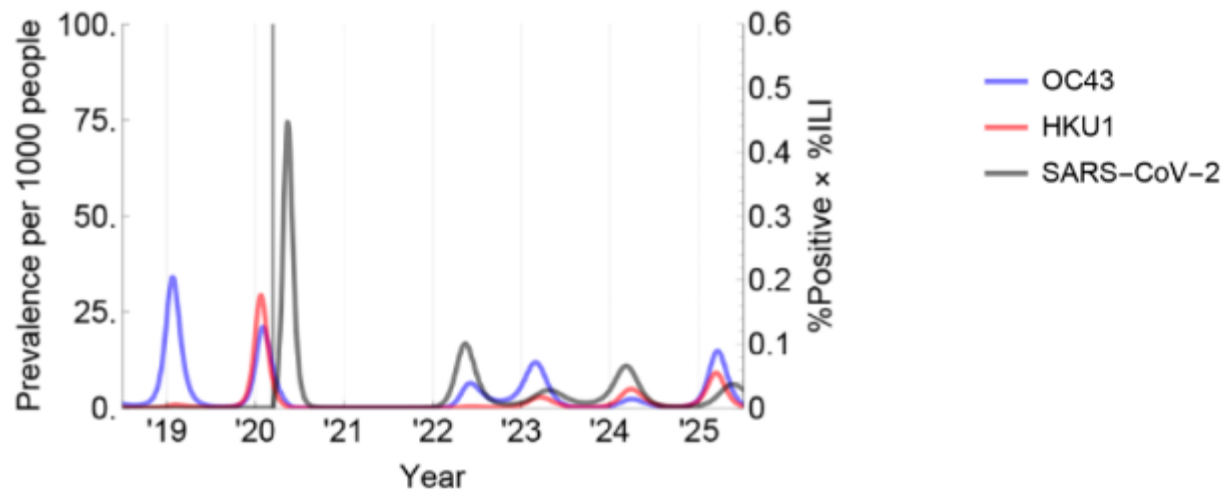
A: Short duration of immunity → annual outbreak



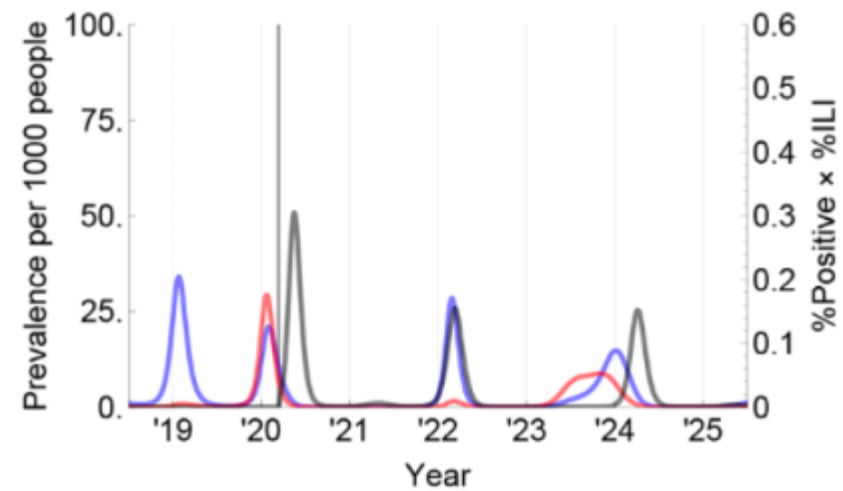
B: Long-term immunity → elimination of the virus

Projection - Transmission dynamics

Invasion scenario for SARS-CoV-2 in temperate regions



*C: Longer-term immunity → biennial outbreaks
Possibly with smaller outbreak*



*D: Higher seasonal variation in transmission → reduce the peak size of the invasion wave
BUT more severe wintertime outbreaks thereafter compare with C*

Total incidence of COVID-19 illness over next years will depend on

- Regular circulation after the initial pandemic wave
- Duration of immunity that SARS-CoV-2 infection imparts
- Social distancing strategies
- Effective therapeutic

Community and close contact exposures

Comparison between (random sampling 1:2):

- Exposure reported by case-patients: adults with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 (= 154)
- Exposure reported by control-participants (= 160)

All were symptomatic

Identified and contact 14-23 days after results of SARS CoV2 testing.

Interview by telephone:

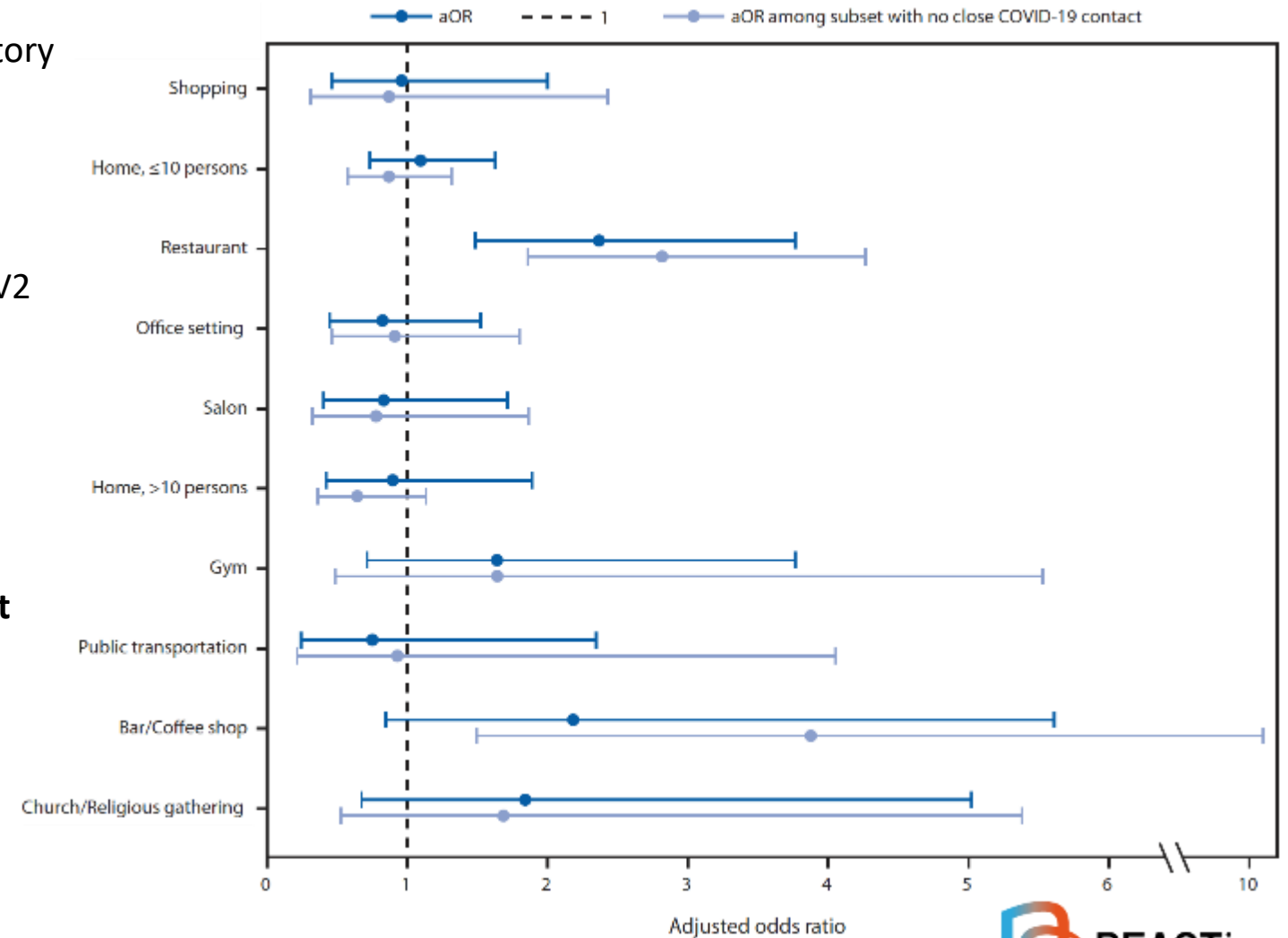
- Mask-wearing behavior, community activities <14 days before symptom onset (shopping, dining at restaurant, salon, gym, coffee/bar...) ...

Case-patients were more likely to have reported dining at restaurant (aOR: 2,4, IC_{95%}: 1,5 – 3,8).

Analysis restricted to 225 participants:

- Dining at restaurant (aOR: 2,8, CI_{95%}: 1,9 – 4,3)
- Going bar/coffee shop (aOR: 3,9, CI_{95%}: 1,5 – 10,1)

Adjusted odds ratio (aOR) and 95% confidence intervals for community exposures



Community and close contact exposures

Most close contact exposures were to family members

Continued assessment of various types of activities and exposures as communities, schools, and workplaces reopen is important

Efforts to reduce possible exposures at location that offer on-site eating and drinking options should be considered

Limits:

- Ratio 1:2 could not be reached → unmatched analysis was performed
- Interview on behaviors one month before → memorization bias
- Participants were aware of their SARS-CoV-2 test results → could influence their responses
- At restaurant: not distinguish between outdoor and indoor
- In coffee shop/bar: not distinguish between venues or service delivery method
- Distanciation measures could not be accounted for restaurant & bar → extrapolate to other countries?
- No explanation about the result difference between dining at restaurant and going to coffee/bar in the full analysis?

COVID-19 & social and leisure activities

Description study of the outbreak in Spain

Transmission declined in early May 2020

Cases' number increased during June and mild July:

- Mild June up to August 2nd: 673 COVID-19 outbreak = 8300 persons
- 76% were small outbreak (<10 cases)
- 2% had more than 100 cases

Social setting = 35% of all active outbreaks

- Family gathering or private party
- Leisure facility

Occupational setting = 20% of all active outbreaks

- Agriculture seasonal worker

Setting	Total				Active				
	Outbreaks		Cases		Outbreaks		Cases		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Healthcare facility	20	3.0	274	3.3	17	3.1	219	3.5	
Long-term care facility	59	8.8	829	9.9	39	7.1	376	6.1	
Vulnerable social group	44	6.5	576	6.9	32	5.8	337	5.4	
Family- different households	65	9.7	406	4.8	52	9.4	315	5.1	
Occupational	Total	146	21.7	2,331	27.8	110	20.0	1,269	20.4
	Slaughterhouse/meat plant	19	NA	767	NA	12	NA	365	NA
	Agriculture seasonal worker/fruit-vegetable company	45	NA	1,022	NA	31	NA	500	NA
	Other/not specified	82	NA	542	NA	67	NA	404	NA
Social	Total	206	30.6	2,627	31.3	193	35.0	2,546	41.0
	Organised event/public space	31	NA	349	NA	29	NA	324	NA
	Family/friends reunion or private party	120	NA	900	NA	112	NA	854	NA
	Leisure facility (restaurant, bar, club...)	35	NA	1,234	NA	34	NA	1,231	NA
	Other/not specified	20	NA	144	NA	18	NA	137	NA
Mixed	111	16.5	1,218	14.5	92	16.7	1,050	16.9	
Other	22	3.3	129	1.5	16	2.9	96	1.5	
Total	673	100	8,390	100	551	100	6,208	100	

Two main settings to target efforts:

- Social gatherings
- Workers in vulnerable situations

New cases and cumulative incidence are currently increasing in all regions

Infectiousness of children

A nationwide COVID-19 contact tracing program in South Korea

Index patient were eligible if they identified ≥ 1 contact.

Compared the difference in detected cases between household and nonhousehold contacts across the stratified age groups.

Index patient age, y	Household	
	No. contacts positive/ no. contacts traced	% Positive (95% CI)
0–9	3/57	5.3 (1.3–13.7)
10–19	43/231	18.6 (14.0–24.0)
20–29	240/3,417	7.0 (6.2–7.9)
30–39	143/1,229	11.6 (9.9–13.5)
40–49	206/1,749	11.8 (10.3–13.4)
50–59	300/2,045	14.7 (13.2–16.3)
60–69	177/1,039	17.0 (14.8–19.4)
70–79	86/477	18.0 (14.8–21.7)
≥ 80	50/348	14.4 (11.0–18.4)
Total	1,248/10,592	11.8 (11.2–12.4)

59 073 contacts of 5 706 COVID-19 index patients:

- 10 592 household contacts \rightarrow **11,8% (CI_{95%} [11,2% - 12,4%]) had COVID-19**
 - with an index patient 10–19 years, 18.6% (CI_{95%} [14.0%–24.0%]) of contacts had COVID-19
- 48 481 nonhousehold contacts \rightarrow 1,9% (CI_{95%} [1,8% - 2,0%]) had COVID-19

\rightarrow Higher secondary attack rate among household than non household contacts
 \rightarrow Highest COVID-19 rate for household contacts of school-aged children (10-19y)

Rates of coronavirus disease among household

Limits:

- Underestimation of the number of cases,
- Exposure outside the household,
- Difference of testing policy between household and nonhousehold contacts,

- \rightarrow **Transmission potential in both children and adolescents,**
- \rightarrow **Possibly more effective transmission in adolescents than in adults.**

Risk of COVID-19: health-care workers & general community

Prospective – observational cohort study (UK & USA)
Data from the COVID Symptom Study smartphone application:

- Baseline demographic info
- Daily info on symptoms
- COVID-19 testing

2 135 190 participants, whom 99 795 front-line health-care workers

Primary outcome: positive COVID-19 test (self report)

- Recorded 5 545 positive COVID-19 test over 34 435 272 person-days
- Testing ratio (health care workers vs general community):
 - UK: ratio 5,5 [1,1 % vs 0,2%]
 - USA: ratio 3,7 [4,1% vs 1,1%]

	Event/person-days	Incidence (30-day)	Multivariate-adjusted hazard ratio (95% CI)	Inverse probability-weighted hazard ratio (95% CI)
Overall (primary analysis)				
General community	3623/32 980 571	0.33%	1 (ref)	1 (ref)
Front-line health-care worker	1922/1454701	3.96%	11.61 (10.93-12.33)	3.40 (3.37-3.43)

Front-line health-care workers positive test risk increased 12 fold (HRa: 11,61).

The difference is not related to testing eligibility

→ *(HR model with inverse probability weighting for predictors of testing)*

Compared with the general community, health-care workers initially free of symptoms had an increase risk of predicted COVID-19 (HRa: 2,05) which was higher in the UK than in the USA (2,09 vs 1,31; $p < 0,0001$)

Risk of COVID-19: health-care workers & general community

POST-HOC ANALYSIS

	Adequate PPE	Reused PPE	Inadequate PPE
Overall			
Event/person-days	592/332 901	146/80 728	157/60 916
Unadjusted hazard ratio (95% CI)	1 (ref)	1.46 (1.21-1.76)	1.32 (1.10-1.57)
Multivariate-adjusted hazard ratio (95% CI)	1 (ref)	1.46 (1.21-1.76)	1.31 (1.10-1.56)
No exposure to patients with COVID-19			
Event/person-days	186/227 654	19/37 599	48/35 159
Unadjusted hazard ratio (95% CI)	1 (ref)	0.96 (0.60-1.55)	1.53 (1.11-2.11)
Multivariate-adjusted hazard ratio (95% CI)	1 (ref)	0.95 (0.59-1.54)	1.52 (1.10-2.09)
Exposure to patients with suspected COVID-19			
Event/person-days	126/54 676	36/19 378	26/14 083
Unadjusted hazard ratio (95% CI)	2.40 (1.91-3.02)	3.23 (2.24-4.66)	1.87 (1.24-2.83)
Multivariate-adjusted hazard ratio (95% CI)	2.39 (1.90-3.00)	3.20 (2.22-4.61)	1.83 (1.21-2.78)
Exposure to patients with documented COVID-19			
Event/person-days	280/50 571	91/23 751	83/11 675
Unadjusted hazard ratio (95% CI)	4.93 (4.07-5.97)	5.12 (3.94-6.64)	5.95 (4.57-7.76)
Multivariate-adjusted hazard ratio (95% CI)	4.83 (3.99-5.85)	5.06 (3.90-6.57)	5.91 (4.53-7.71)

Health-care workers with inadequate or reused PPE had an increased risk for COVID-19 after multivariable adjustment

Sufficient availability of PPE, quality of PPE, or both reduce the risk of COVID-19.

PPE reuse → self-contamination during repeated application

Increased risk for SARS-CoV-2 infection among health-care workers compared with the general community.

Adequate allocation of PPE is important

Need to ensure proper use of PPE and adherence to other infection control measures.

Limits:

- Details for some exposures were shortened (eg, type of PPE)
- Self-report (risk factor & primary outcome)
- Selection bias (not a random sampling)

Real-world network – COVID-19 control strategies

- Non-pharmaceutical interventions are central to reducing SARS-CoV-2 transmission
- Epidemic model that simulates COVID-19 outbreaks across a real-work network
 - Assess the impact of a range of testing and contact tracing strategies
 - Simulate physical distancing strategies
 - Quantify interaction among physical distancing, contact tracing & testing affects outbreak dynamics
- Uses a publicly dataset on human social interactions

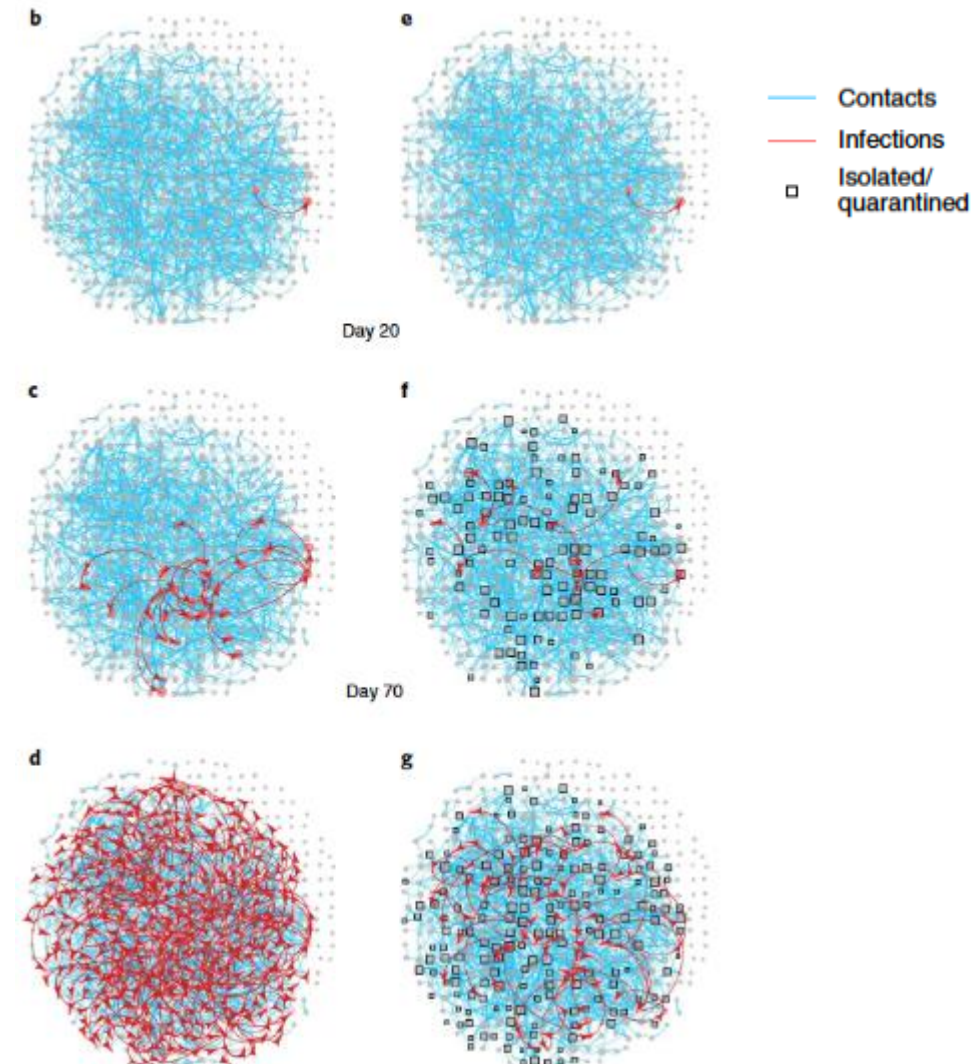


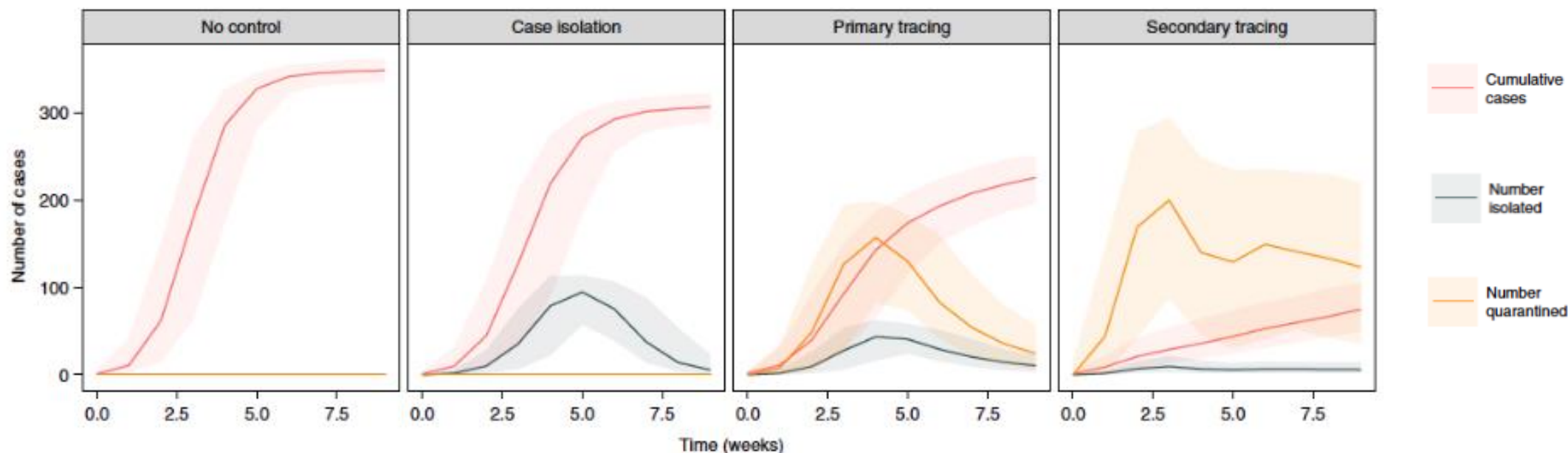
Illustration of the Haslemere network with epidemic simulation predictions.

b–d: Progression of the COVID-19 epidemic under the no-intervention

e–g: under secondary contact tracing scenarios.

Real-world network – COVID-19 control strategies

- From a single infected individual:
 - Uncontrolled outbreak: 75% of the population infected 70 days after the first simulated infection
 - Case isolation: 66% of the population infected
 - Primary tracing: 48% infected
 - Secondary contact tracing: 16% infected after 70 days
- } Very high proportion of quarantined individuals



Epidemic model predictions of outbreak size & number of people isolated or quarantined
 Cumulative number of cases, number of people isolated and number of people quarantined

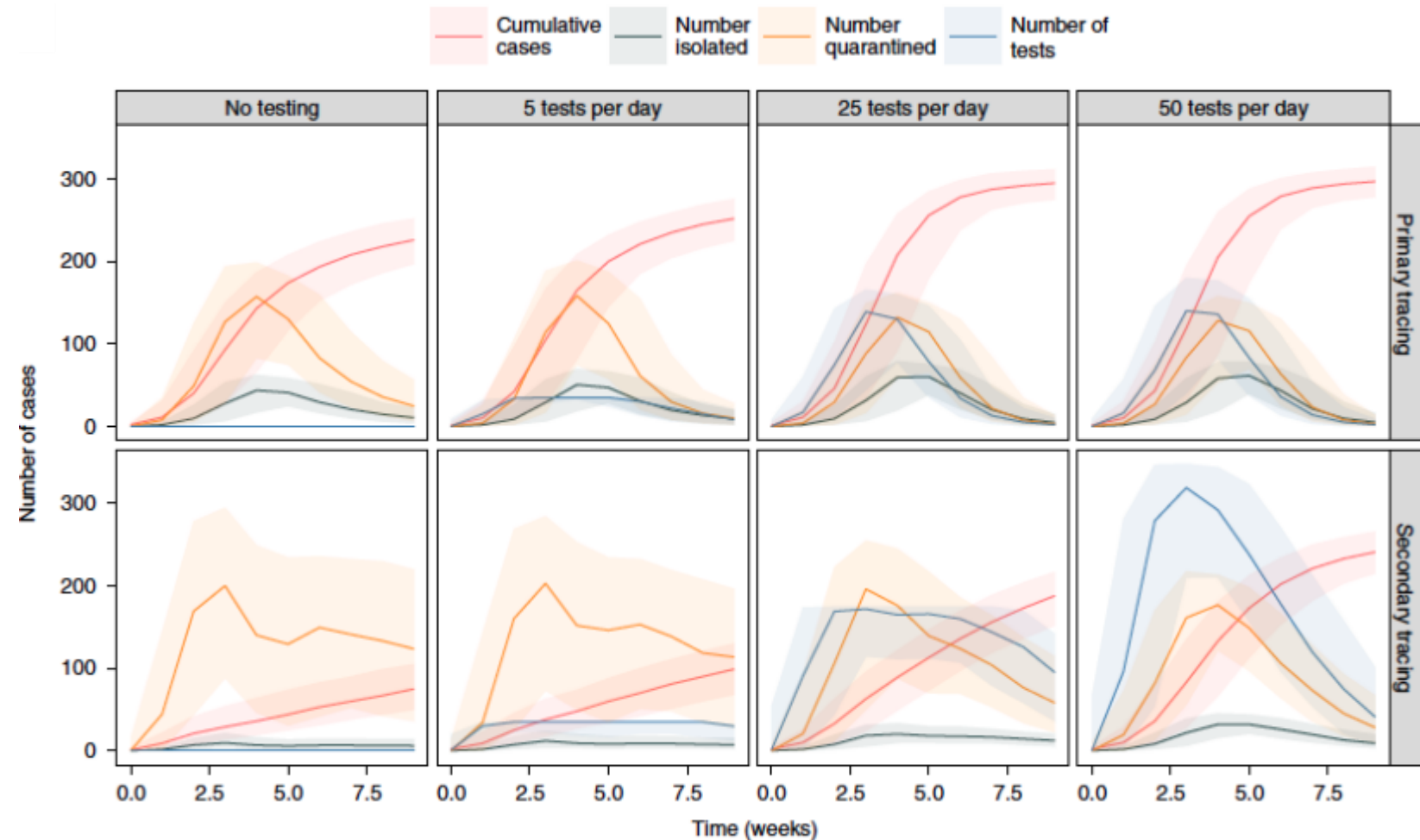
Real-world network – COVID-19 control strategies

- Increasing the testing capacity → increases in outbreak size, especially under secondary contact tracing
- Number of quarantined individuals can be reduced through mass testing

Contact tracing & quarantine strategy:

→ Might be more effective than « local lockdown » strategy when contact rates are high

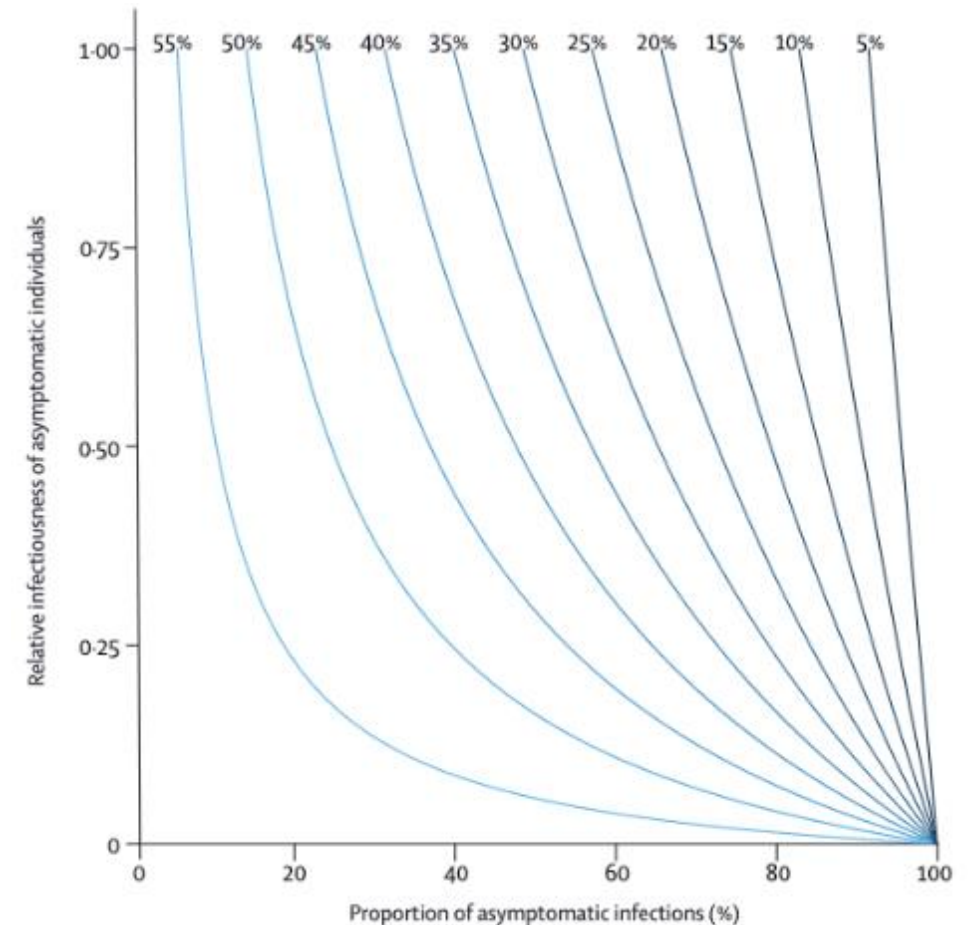
→ Would be most efficient when combined with other control measures such as physical distancing



Epidemic model predictions of how testing affect outbreak and quarantine dynamics

Testing strategies for COVID-19 control

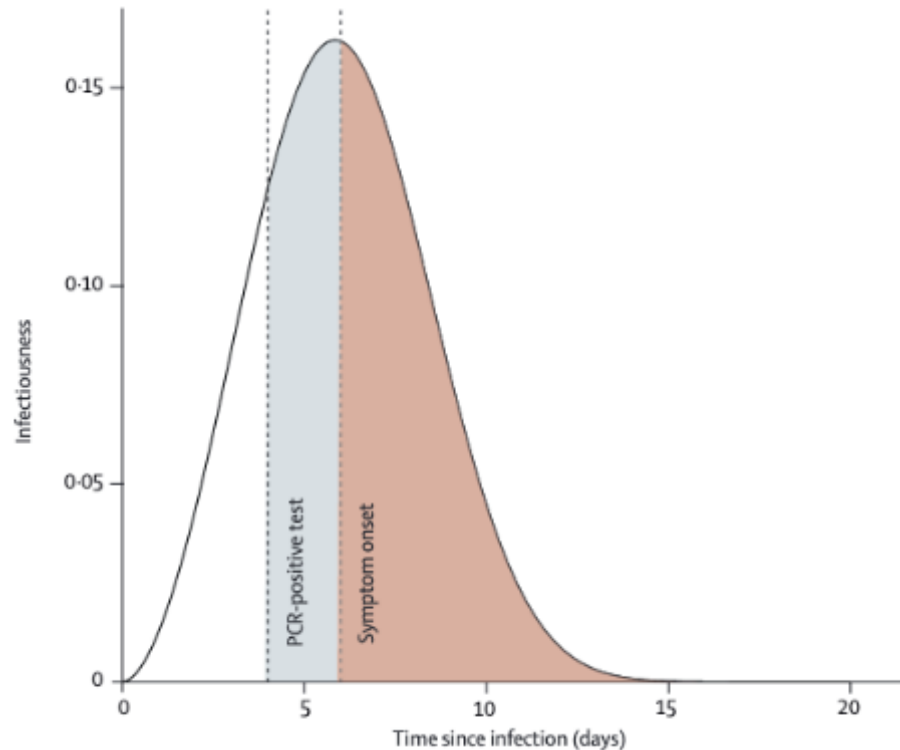
- Mathematical model of SARS-CoV-2 transmission based on:
 - Infectiousness: proportion of infection that are asymptomatic and their infectiousness
 - PCR test sensitivity over time since infection
- Evaluate
 - The impact of self-isolation following either a positive test result or symptom onset
 - The impact of quarantine of contacts of laboratory confirmed cases
- Percentage of reduction in R = expected effectiveness of different testing strategies
- Based on literature: 33% of infections are asymptomatic which have a relative infectiousness off about 50%
- If self-isolation was 100% effective + all individuals with symptoms compatible with COVID-19 self-isolated → reduction in R of 47%; $CI_{95\%}$ [32 – 55]
 - Play an important role in prevention of SARS-CoV-2 transmission
 - No single strategy will reduce R below 1



Percentage of reduction in R by self-isolation following onset of symptoms as a function of the proportion of infections that are asymptomatic

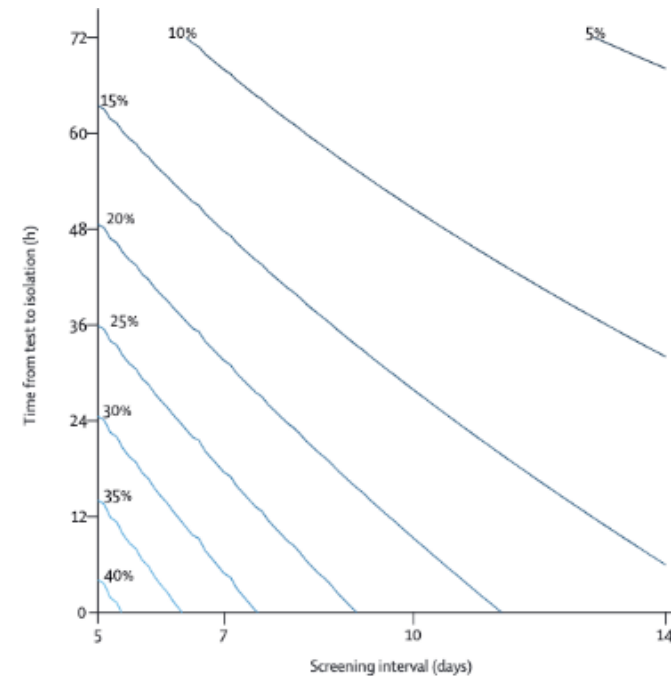
Testing strategies for COVID-19 control

- Self-isolation following onset symptoms of COVID-19: reduction of their contribution to SARS-CoV-2 transmission



Detection of presymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection and subsequent reduction in transmission through self-isolation after a positive PCR test

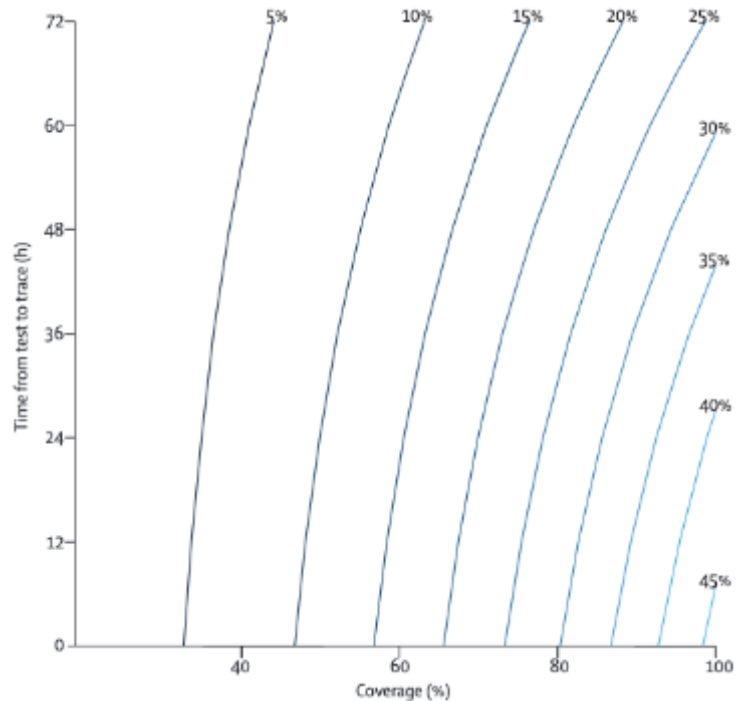
- PCR testing of symptomatic individuals → reduces the number of individuals needing self-isolate BUT would reduce the effectiveness of self-isolation (false negative)
- Regular PCR testing, irrespective of symptoms, could reduce transmission
 - Depends on the frequency of testing – timeliness of results – sensitivity of the test



Additional percentage reduction in the R by a policy of repeated PCR testing

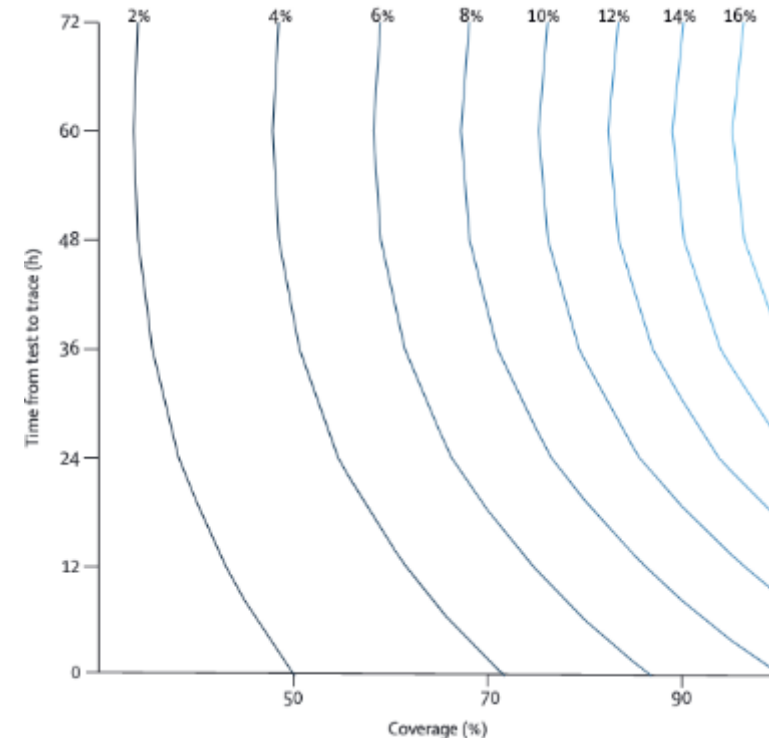
Testing strategies for COVID-19 control

- Test-and-trace strategy: Isolating the contact of symptomatic SARS-CoV-2 positive individuals
 - Dependent on:
 - Proportion of symptomatic who are tested
 - Success of tracing their contact
 - Timeless of obtaining test results & identifying & quarantine them



Test-and-trace strategies

- Test-trace-test strategy: testing contact & only those who tested positive put into isolation
 - Effectiveness is lower than a test-trace strategy
 - High probability of false negative



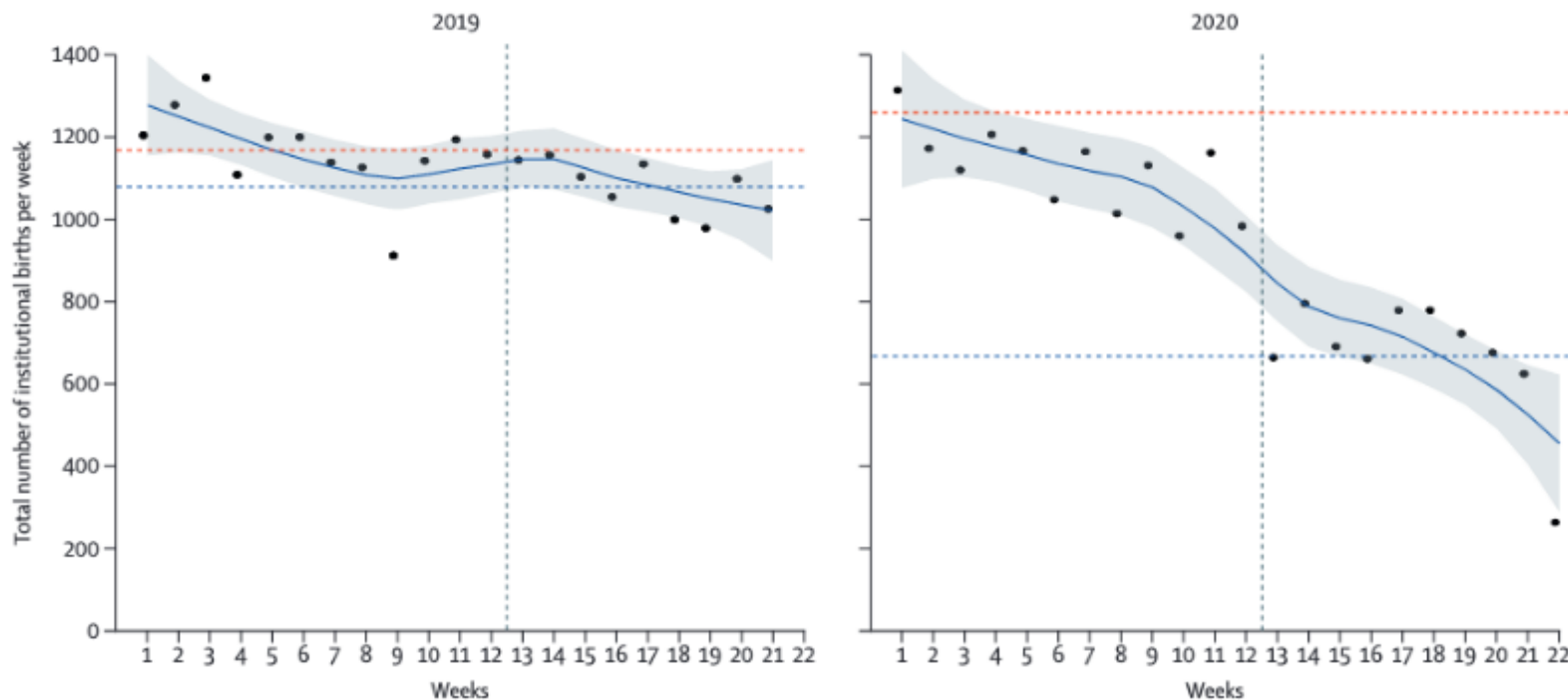
Test-trace-test strategies

Impact of COVID-19 pandemic response - Nepal

Prospective – observational study in 9 health institutions in Nepal

Data over a period of 5 months: 12,5 weeks before lockdown and 9,5 weeks during lockdown

Women > 22 weeks of gestations + fetal heart sound was heard at the time of admission : 21 763 enrolled & 20 354 gave birth in the hospital



Institutional birth:

- Substantial decrease – especially after week 12,5
- Reduction during lockdown was 7,4%
- **Total decrease of 52,4% by the end of lockdown**

Impact of COVID-19 pandemic response - Nepal

	Before lockdown	During lockdown	<i>P value</i>
Institutional stillbirth (per 1000 total births)	14	21	0,0002
Intitutional neonatal mortality (per 1000 livebirths)	13	40	0,0022
Intrapartum fetal heart rate monitoring (%)	56,8	43,4	<0,0001
Skin to skin contact with the mother's chest (%)	13,0	26,2	<0,0001
Health workers wash hand during childbirth (%)	28,6	41,1	<0,0001

	Preterm birth rate		Institutional stillbirth, rate per 1000 total births		Institutional neonatal mortality rate, per 1000 livebirths	
	Estimate (95% CI)	p value	Estimate (95% CI)	p value	Estimate (95% CI)	p value
Adjusted effect, β						
Baseline risk (risk before lockdown)	0.14 (0.11-0.17)	<0.0001	3 (2-7)	<0.0001	0.9 (0.1-8)	<0.0001
Risk ratio during lockdown vs before lockdown	1.30 (1.20-1.40)	<0.0001	1.46 (1.13-1.89)	0.0042	3.15 (1.47-6.74)	0.0037

- These results raise questions on policies regarding strict lockdown in LMIC
- Pandemic lockdown jeopardize the progress that has been made in the past in Nepal
- Urgent need to protect access to high quality intrapartum care and prevent excess death

EPIDEMIOLOGY (October 12th 2020)

1. What is the situation in the World?

- More than 30 millions of confirmed cases in the World and 1 million global deaths

2. What is the incubation period & R_0 ?

- The median incubation period is 5 days with an initial basic reproductive number between 2 to 6 before control measures
- Presymptomatic transmission: 44% - Infectiousness decline quickly within 7 days.

3. What do we know about the risk of transmission & the mode of transmission?

- Person to person transmission – transmission seems to be more effective in adolescents than in adults
- Route of transmission: droplet, direct contact, possible aerosol
- Increased risk for SARS-CoV-2 infection among health-care workers compared with the general community.
- Most close contact exposures were to private or public gathering

4. What is the impact of the different measures taken by countries?

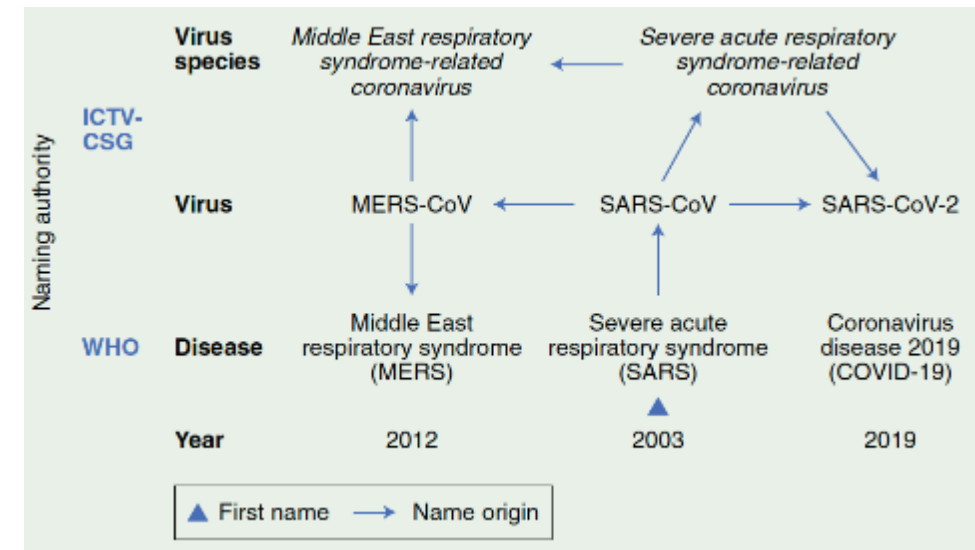
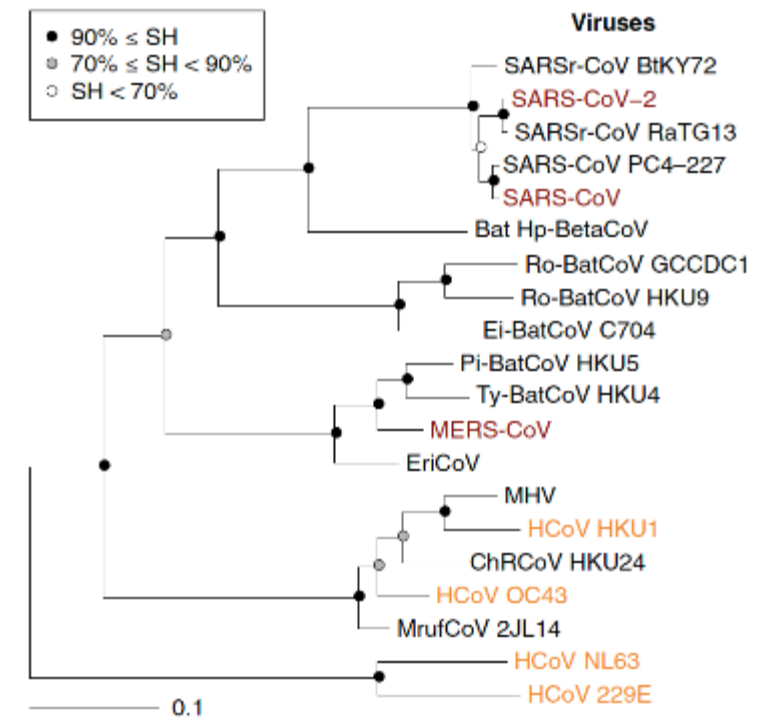
- Face masks reduce the transmission of respiratory viruses
- Transmission of viruses is lower with physical distancing of 1 meter or more
- Pandemic lockdown can have an important impact on the access to the health system in some countries

Questions:

- Which type of virus is SARS-CoV-2?
- What is the stability and viability of SARS-CoV-2?
- What do we know about viral load and shedding according to different samples?
- What is the description of the immune responses in infected patients?
- Alternative to the nasopharyngeal swab for SARS-CoV-2 detection?

SARS-CoV-2

- Part of family of enveloped positive-strand RNA viruses (*coronaviridae*)
- Belongs to the *betacoronavirus* genus
 - 98% similarity with bat coronavirus RaTG13
 - 79% genetic similarity with SARS-CoV
- 7 coronaviruses known to infect humans
 - 4 coronavirus infect mainly the upper respiratory tract
 - HCoV HKU1 – OC43 – NL63 – 229E
 - 3 coronavirus can replicated in lower respiratory tract and cause pneumonia with high case fatality rates
 - SARS-CoV = Case Fatality Rate (CFR) of 10% (2002 – 2003)
 - MERS-CoV = CFR of 37% (2012 -)
 - SARS-CoV-2 = CFR unknown (2019 -)



Stability of SARS-CoV-2

IN VITRO

Outcome: positive viral culture

Surface stability

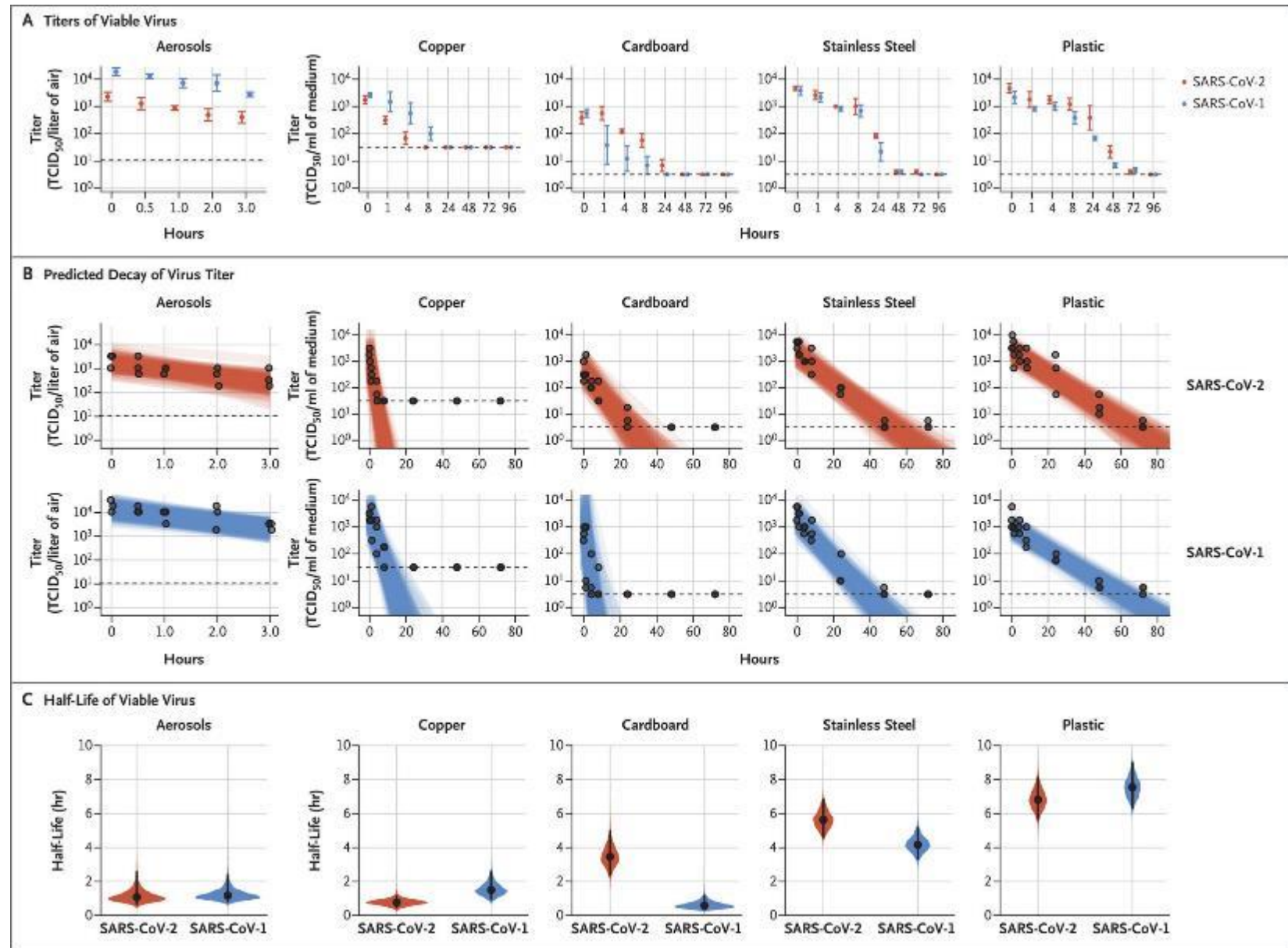
- Plastic and stainless steel: **72 hours**
- Cardboard: **24 h**
- Copper: **4 hours**

Viable in aerosol: **3 hours**

Half-life in aerosol:

- **1.1 to 1.2-h [0.64 – 2.24]**

Aerosol transmission is possible in experimental conditions



Persistence of virus RNA

49 patients with 490 specimens → 171 specimens positive for SARS-CoV-2 RNA

Frequency and duration of detectable SARS-CoV-2 RNA in body fluids?

Weibull model → time loss of SARS-CoV-2 RNA detection

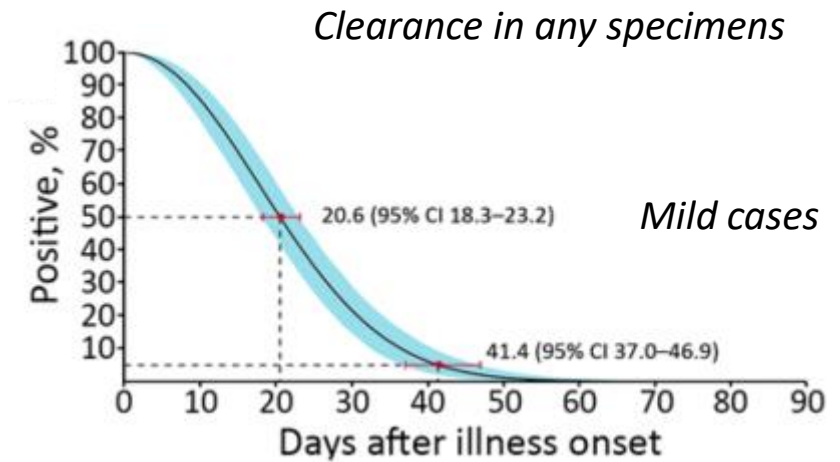
Time to loss detection

- Time to loss detection was longer for NP swabs and feces
- Significant differences for mild cases among specimens

Prolonged persistence of SARS-CoV-2 RNA detection in hospitalized patient

→ Does not imply the existence of infectious virus particles

→ Still a need for preventive measures?



Limits

- Existence of infectious particles?
- Virus isolation and tests of specimen's infectivity
- not conducted
- Unspecified concentration of SARS-CoV-2 RNA
- May not be generalized to all population

Data are presented in days after illness onset

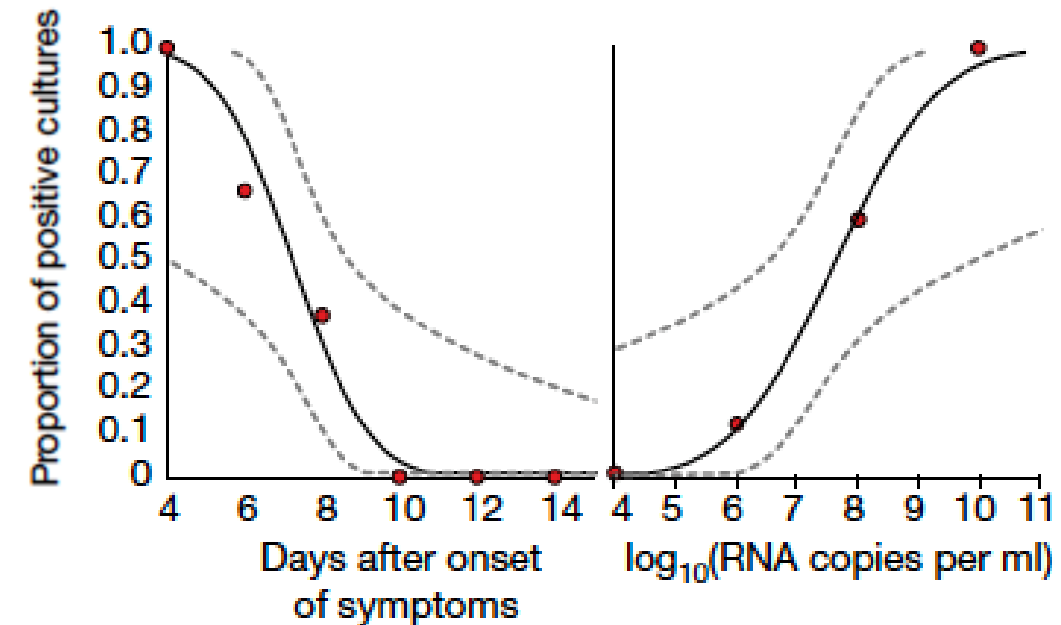
Specimens	Mild cases, n = 43		Severe cases, n = 6	
	Median (95% CI)	95th percentile (95% CI)	Median (95% CI)	95th percentile (95% CI)
Throat swab	15.6 (11.8–20.7)	32.8 (25.9–42.3)	33.9 (24.2–47.3)	53.9 (39.4–81.7)
Sputum	20.0 (14.1–27.0)	43.7 (33.6–60.4)	30.9 (23.5–39.1)	44.7 (36.3–58.0)
Nasopharyngeal swab	22.7 (18.8–27.5)	46.3 (39.0–55.2)	33.5 (25.7–42.7)	49.4 (38.4–68.5)
Feces	24.5 (21.2–28.3)	45.6 (40.0–52.8)	32.5 (26.3–39.1)	48.9 (41.3–59.7)

Viability

9 patients (Munich) – Virological analysis & information on virus infectivity

- Active virus replication in tissues of the upper respiratory tract
- No indications of replication in the digestive system
- Infectious virus on swab or sputum samples but not from stool samples
- None of urine and serum samples tested positive for RNA for SARS-CoV-2
- The success of virus isolation also depend of viral load
- **No isolates of the virus were obtained from samples taken after day 8 in spite of ongoing high viral loads.**

Virus isolation success based on probit distributions



Viral load

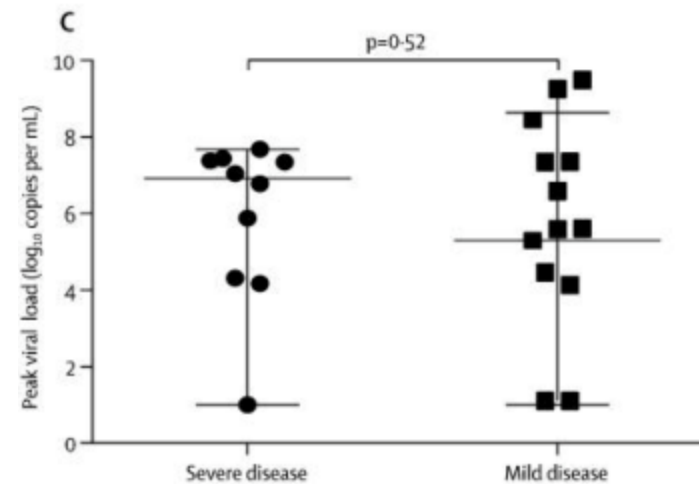
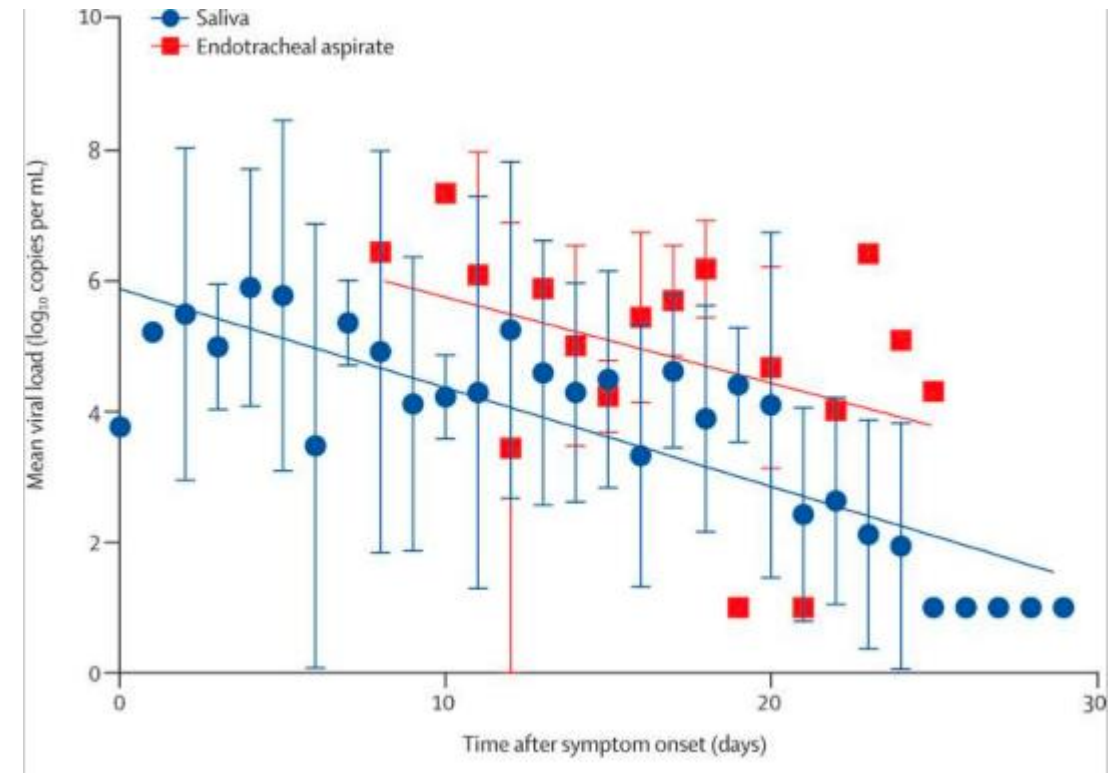
23 patients (median age: 62y) in Hong Kong → 173 respiratory specimens

- Morning saliva samples
- Endotracheal aspirate (intubated patients)

Viral load:

- Median: 5,2 log₁₀ copies per mL (IQR 4,1–7,0)
- Saliva viral load: higher during first week and declining after this point
- Endotracheal aspirate viral load: non-significant decline during the first weeks
- 7 patients had viral RNA detected 20 days after symptoms
- No association between prolonged detection and severity
- Older age was correlated with higher viral load
- No difference between mild and severe cases

Limit: low number of cases



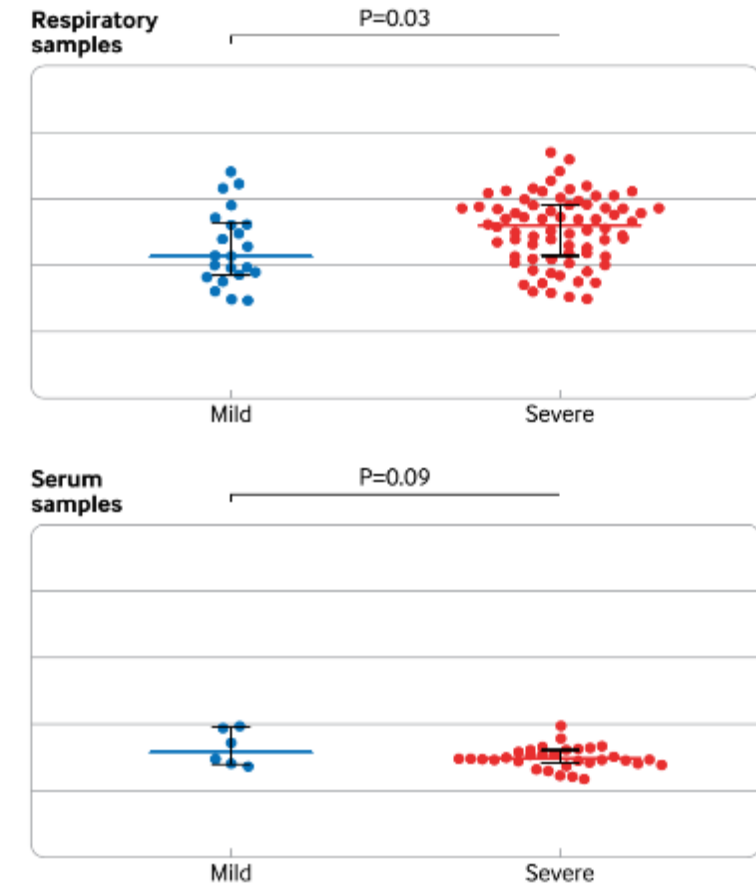
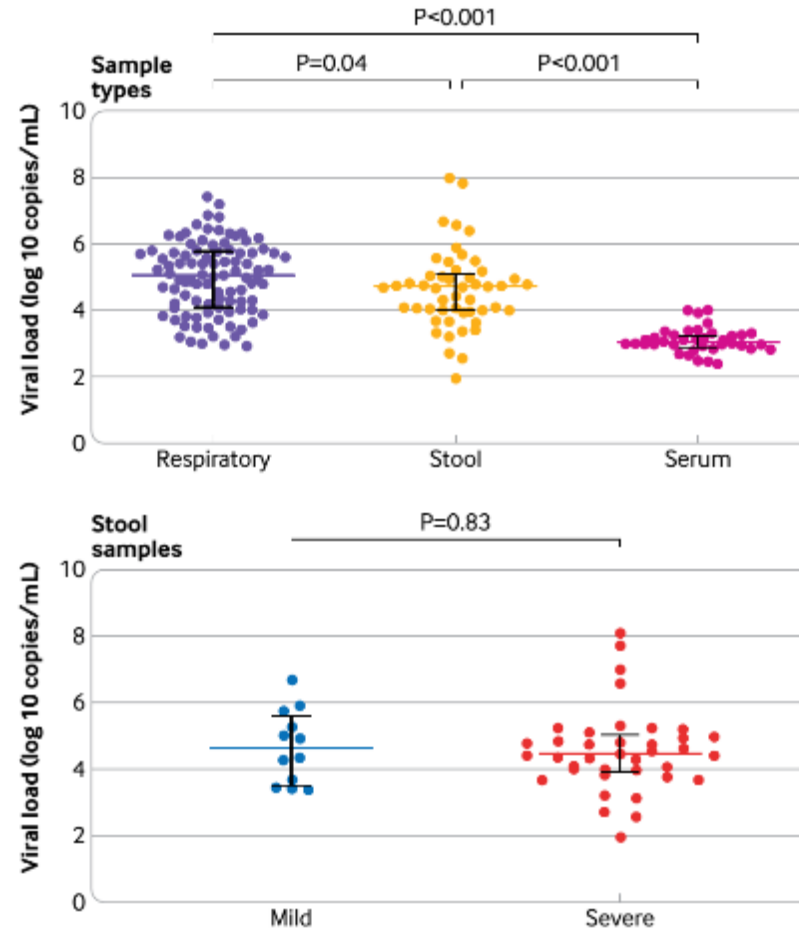
Viral load

96 patients (22 with mild disease and 74 with severe diseases) in China

Viral load:

- Duration of virus shedding in respiratory samples longer among severe patients (21 vs 14 days), also longer in patients >60 years old and male.
- 59% of patients with positive stool samples and presenting a longer viral shedding in stool than respiratory sample (22 vs 18 days).
- Viral load were slightly higher among severe cases.

Limit: a relatively low number of cases



Viral load

205 patients (mean age: 44y) → 1070 respiratory specimens:

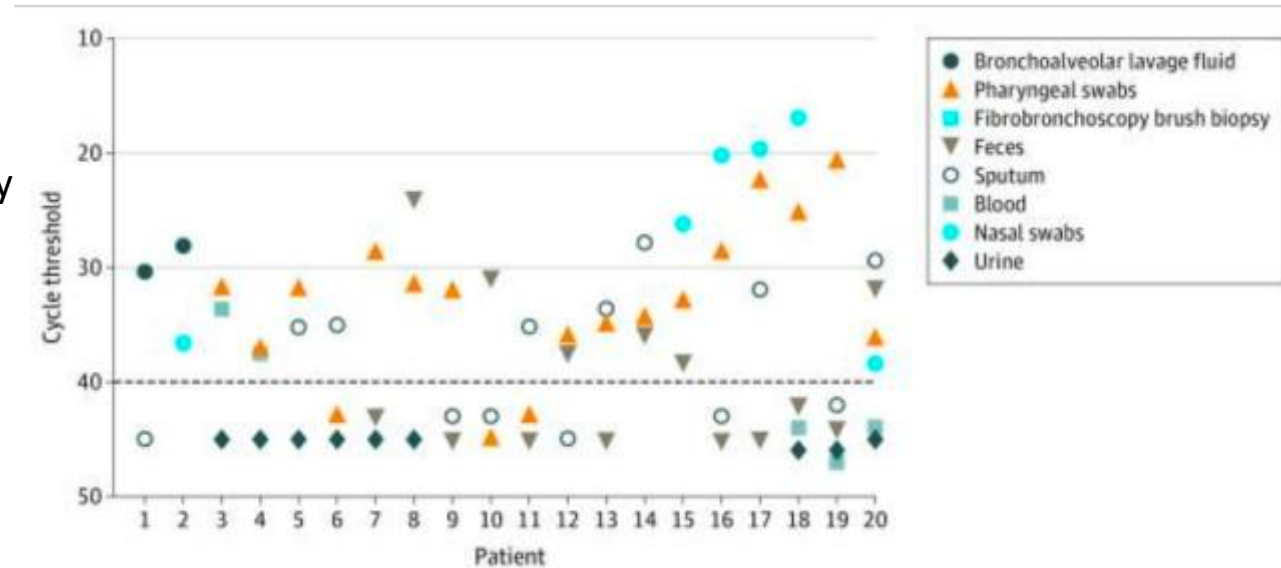
- Pharyngeal swabs, urine, sputum, blood, feces
- Bronchoalveolar lavage fluid & fibro bronchoscopy brush biopsy

Cycle threshold: indicator of the copy number of SARS-CoV-2 RNA

Cycle threshold < 40 → positive for SARS-CoV-2 RNA

Positive rates:

- Highest positive rates → bronchoalveolar fluid (93%)
- Sputum (72%) – pharyngeal swabs (32%)
- Blood showed only 1% and urine 0%
- Mean cycle threshold for nasal swabs = 24,3 → higher viral load



→ Testing of specimen from multiple sites
 ↑ sensitivity & ↓ false negative

Limit: this differ according to the typology of patients and disease stages.

Dynamic in viral shedding

94 symptomatic patients → 414 throat swabs from symptoms onset up to 32 days after

- Detection limit was Ct=40 (used to indicate negative samples)
- 50% were male
- Median age: 47 years
- No severe or critical patients

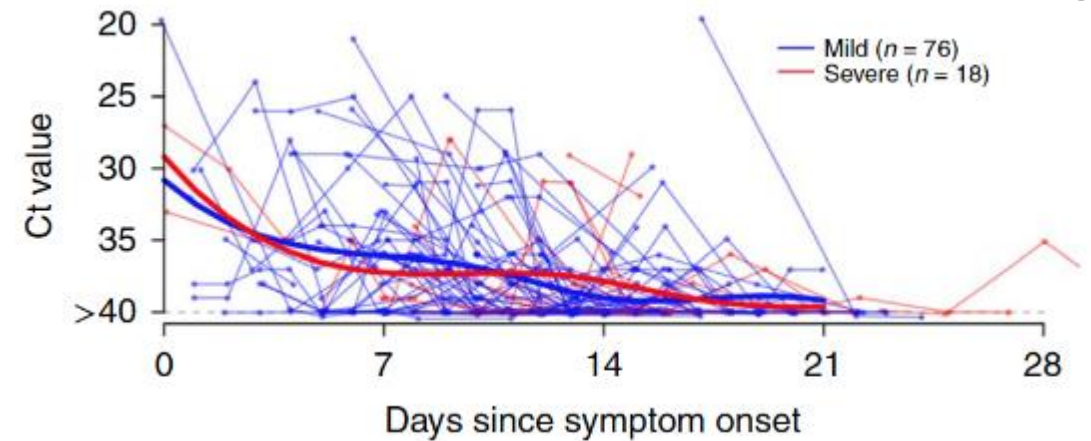
Dynamic in viral shedding

- Highest viral load soon after symptom onset
- Decreasing gradually after symptom onset
- **No difference in viral loads across sex, age groups, disease severity**

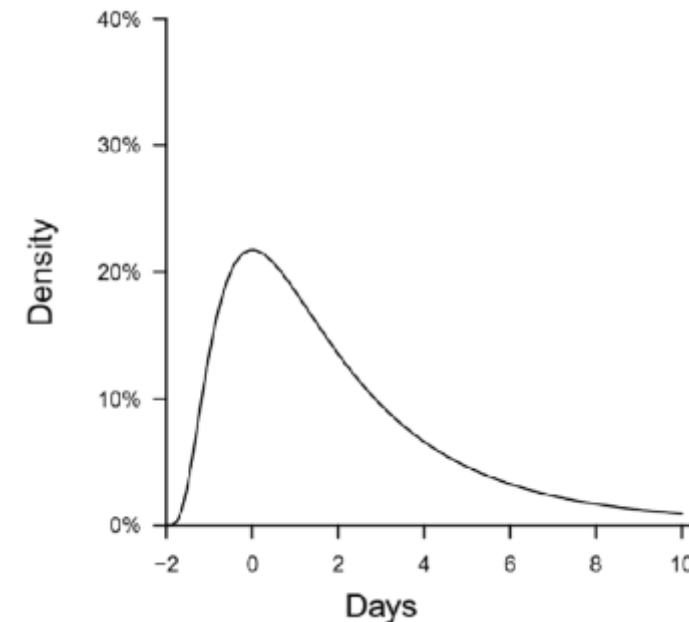
Viral shedding may begin 2 to 3 days before first symptoms

The estimated proportion of **presymptomatic transmission was 44%**

(CI_{95%} [30–57%]). Infectiousness decline quickly within 7 days



Viral load detected by RT-PCR in throat swabs from patients infected with SARS-CoV-2



Simulated serial intervals assuming infectiousness started 2 days before symptom onset

Oral & fecal viral shedding

401 patients → 1758 rectal swabs during 0 to 98 days after illness onset

- 80 patients positive for SARS-CoV-2 in the rectal swabs
 - Pediatrics: positive rate of 56,7%
 - Adults: positive rate of 16,9%
- Positive rate decreases over time

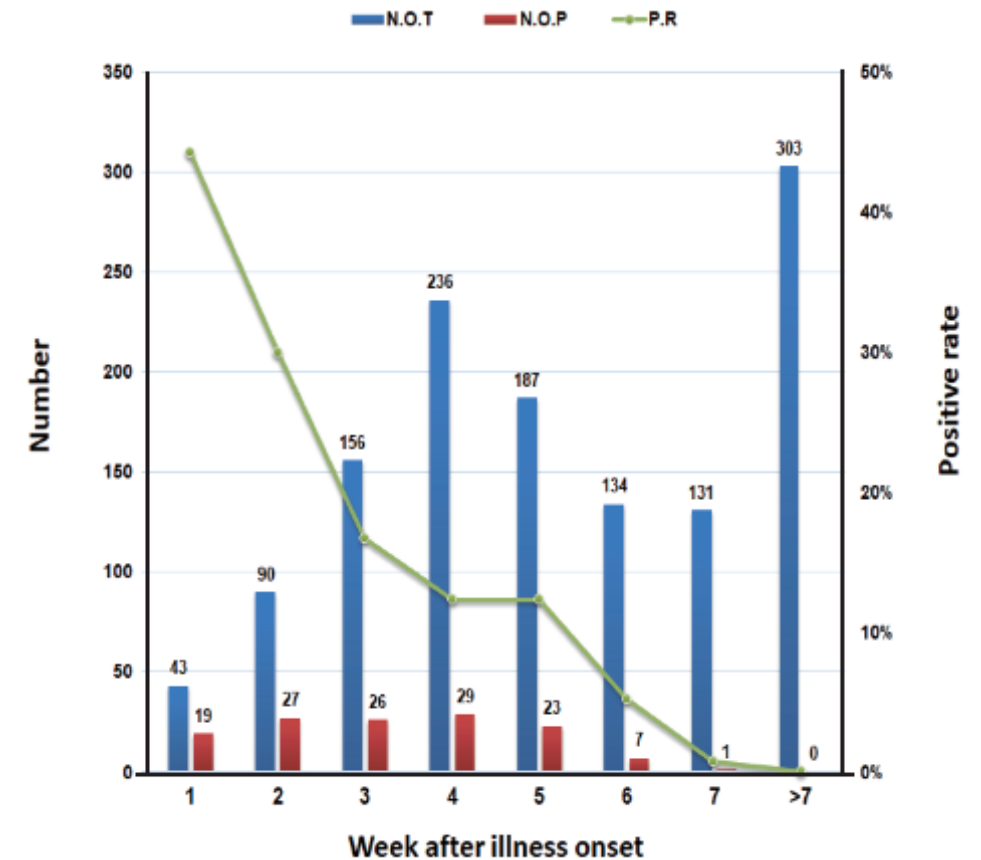
517 pairs (respiratory + rectal samples) from the 80 patients positive in rectal swabs

- 58 were double positive → coincidence rate increased during the disease progression
- 112 positive in rectal & negative in respiratory sample
- Higher viral load in rectal than respiratory samples

Factors independently associated with the duration of fecal viral shedding:

- Neutrophil level OR:1,55 IC_{95%}[1,05 – 2,40]
- Interval between antiviral treatment and illness onset OR:1,17 IC_{95%}[1,01 – 2,34]

NOT: number of tested - NOP: number of positive - PR: positive rate ³⁷



→ Intestine = reservoir of SARS-CoV-2 RNA

The gastrointestinal viral reservoir is potentially a long-lasting fomite for SARS-CoV-2 transmission even for asymptomatic patients

→ **Still viable virus?**

Positivity of viral culture

Viral culture is only rarely positive for low viral load (Ct values above 25 to 30) and after 8 to 10 days after symptom onset

Viral culture is not positive for feces sample

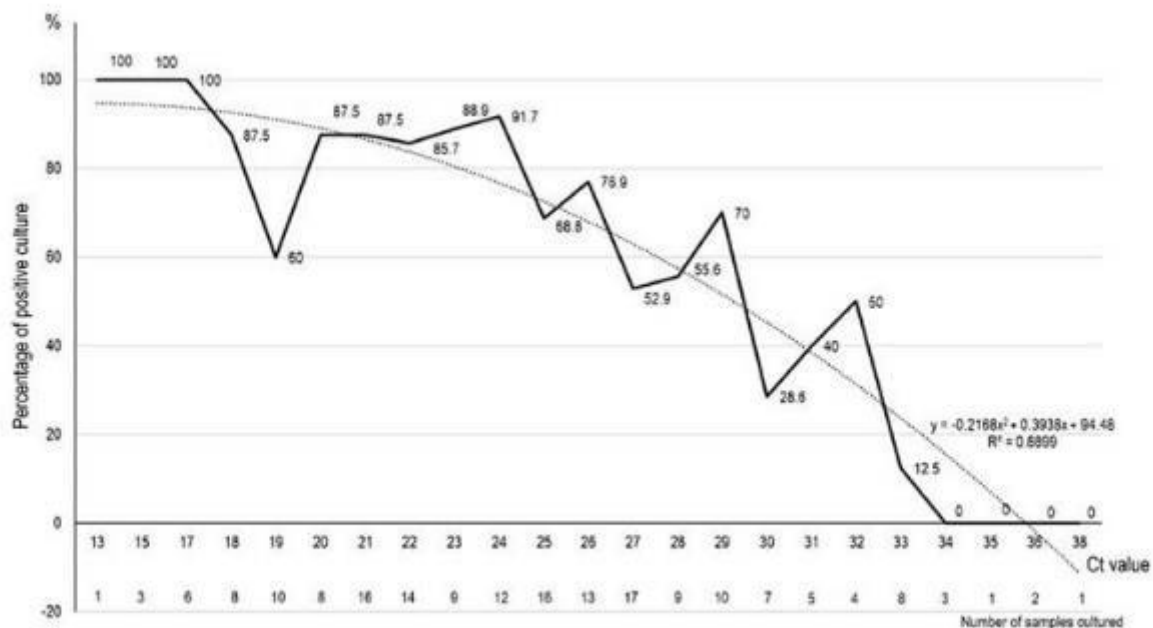
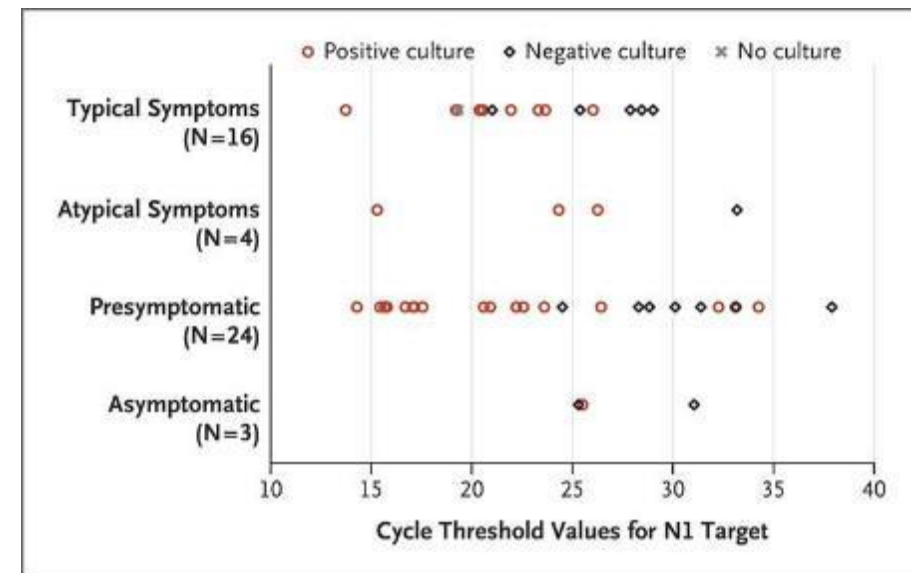
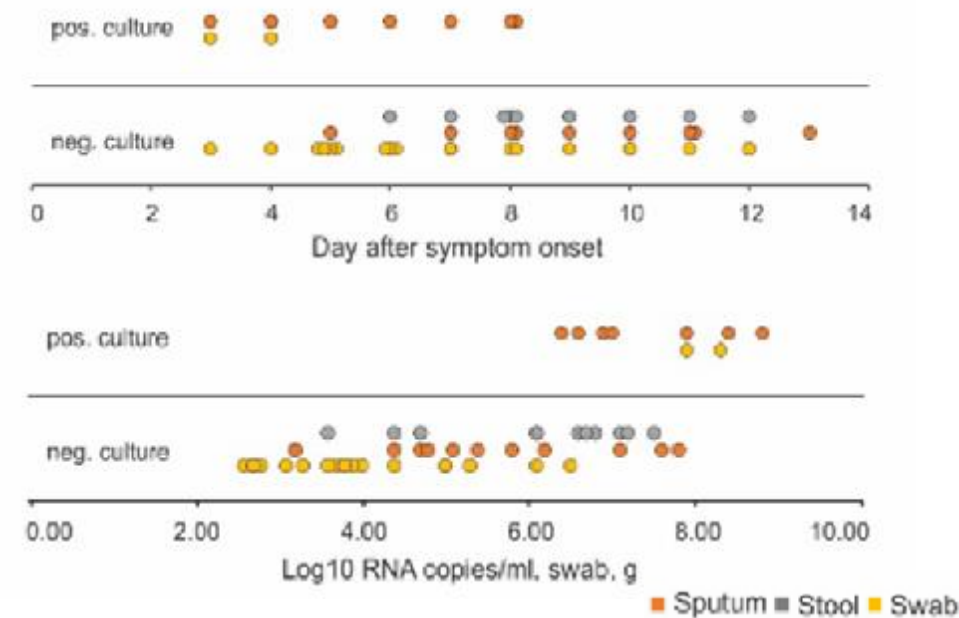
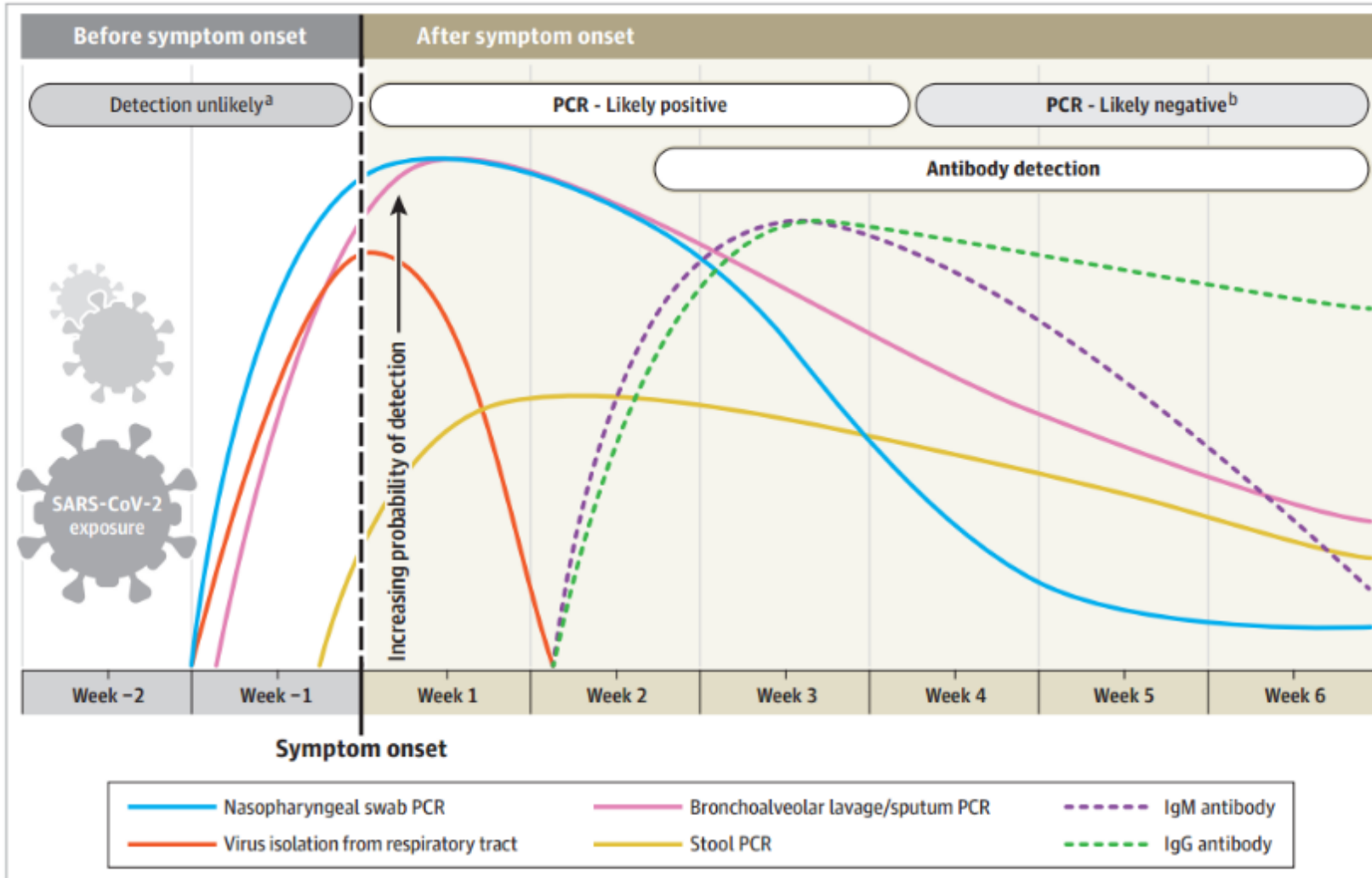


Fig. 1 Percentage of positive viral culture of SARS-CoV-2 PCR-positive nasopharyngeal samples from Covid-19 patients, according to Ct value (plain line). The dashed curve indicates the polynomial regression curve



SARS-CoV-2 detection



Limit: antibody response yet to be characterized among the various patients' populations

Estimated time intervals and rates of viral detection are based on data from several published reports. Because of variability in values among studies, estimated time intervals should be considered approximations and the probability of detection of SARS-CoV-2 infection is presented qualitatively. SARS-CoV-2 indicates severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2; PCR, polymerase chain reaction.

^a Detection only occurs if patients are followed up proactively from the time of exposure.

^b More likely to register a negative than a positive result by PCR of a nasopharyngeal swab.

Immunological assessment

Cohort study of 178 confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection

Asymptomatic infection = 20,8% (37/178 patients)

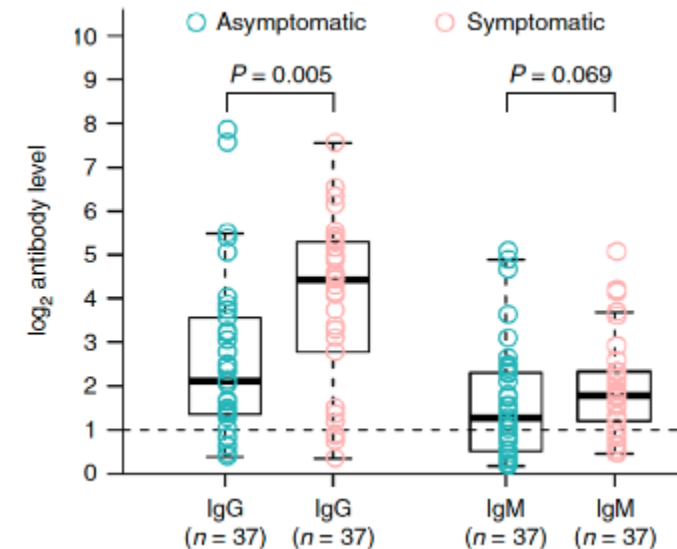
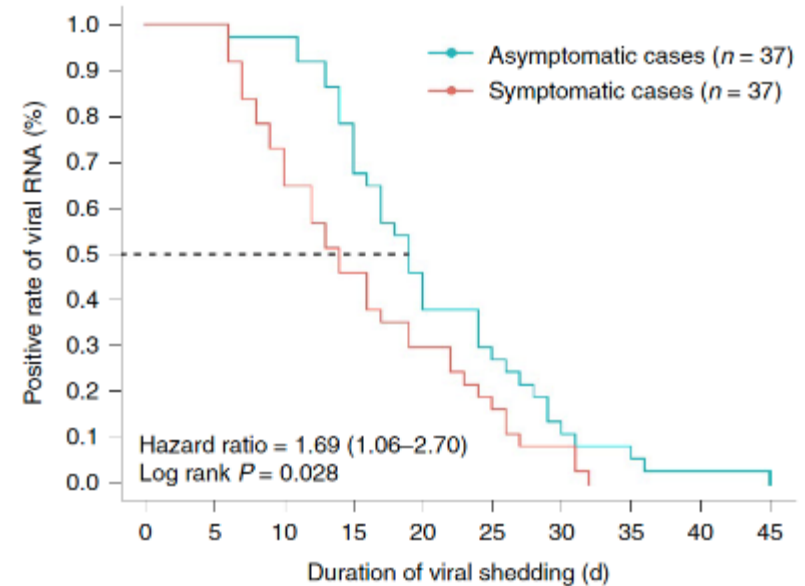
37 asymptomatic matched with 37 mild symptomatic patients

Viral shedding:

- Initial Ct value were similar in the two groups
- Asymptomatic group had a significantly longer duration of viral shedding (19 days versus 14 days; $p=0.028$)

IgG and IgM, 3 to 4 weeks after exposure (acute phase):

- IgG positivity rates similar between the two groups (81 and 84% of asymptomatic and symptomatic, respectively)
- IgG levels in the asymptomatic group (median S/CO, 3.4; IQR, 1.6–10.7) were lower than the symptomatic group (median S/CO, 20.5; IQR, 5.8–38.2; $p = 0.005$)
- IgM levels were similar in the two groups (62 and 78% of positivity of asymptomatic and symptomatic, respectively)



Immunological assessment

IgG and IgM, 8 weeks after exposure (convalescent phase)

- A decline of IgG is observed among >90% of patients
- 40% and 13% of asymptomatic individuals IgG+ at the acute phase became seronegative

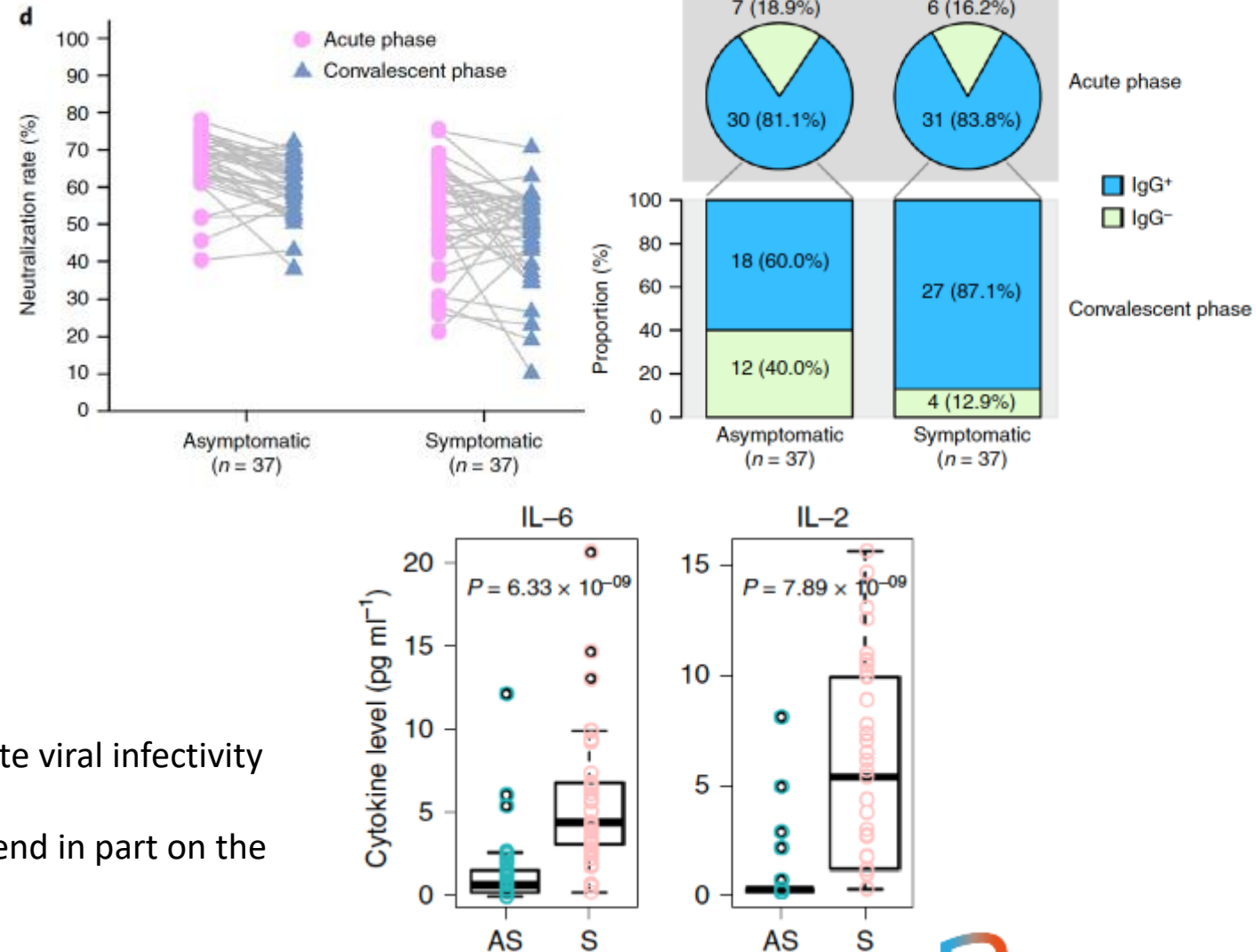
Similar observations were made for neutralizing antibodies

Asymptomatic patients had a reduced inflammatory response with lower concentration of circulating cytokines and chemokines

The relatively low seroprevalence and its decrease within 2-3 months after infection highlights the potential limits of serology for diagnostic and the need of timely serosurvey

Limits

- Viral RNA shedding does not equate viral infectivity (not assessed in this study)
- Serological observations may depend in part on the commercial assay used



SARS-CoV-2 salivary detection

Rapid and accurate diagnostic tests are essential for controlling the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic

70 patients hospitalized with COVID-19 (nasopharyngeal swabs).

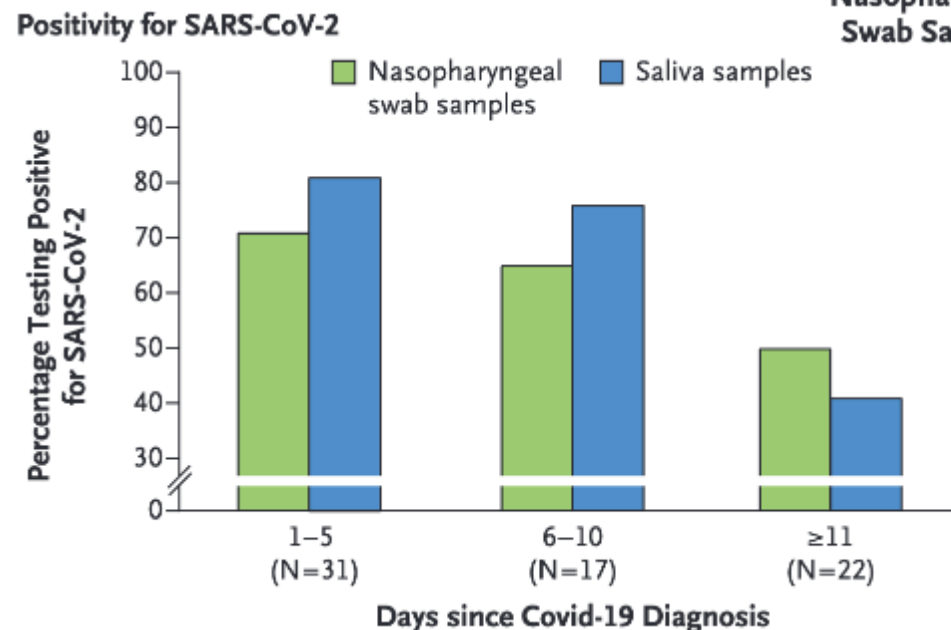
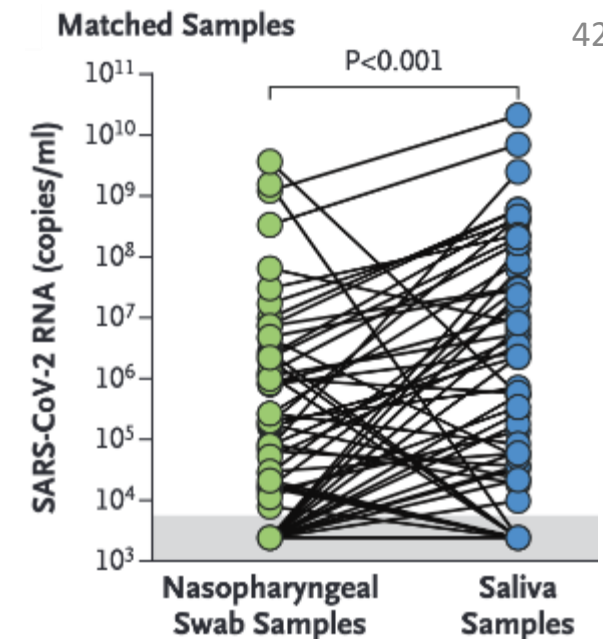
Additional samples (saliva specimens collected by the patients themselves + nasopharyngeal swabs collected by health care workers)

Detected more RNA copies in the saliva specimens than nasopharyngeal swabs (mean log copies per millilitre, 5.58 versus 4.93)

Higher percentage of saliva samples than nasopharyngeal swab samples were positive

Saliva specimens and nasopharyngeal swab specimens have at least similar sensitivity in the detection of SARS-CoV-2 during the course of hospitalization

Limits: hospitalized patients, nasopharyngeal samples presented an unusually low sensitivity ($\approx 70\%$ for earlier samples) in this study



Saliva specimens could be effective in COVID-19 diagnosis, but needs to be confirmed for outpatients

Salivary detection of SARS-CoV-2 in asymptomatic subjects

Mass screening study – 1924 asymptomatic subjects:

- Close contact with clinically confirmed COVID-19 patients (CT cohort, $n=161$)
- Asymptomatic travelers arriving at Tokyo & Kansai (AQ cohort, $n=1763$)

Saliva sample (self-collected) & NPS sample (medical officers)

Comparison between paired samples

Estimated prevalence:

- CT cohort: 29,6%, $CI_{90\%}[23,8 - 35,8\%]$
- AQ cohort: 0,3%, $CI_{90\%}[0,1 - 0,6\%]$
- The true concordance probability was:
0,998, $CI_{90\%}[0,996 - 0,999\%]$ in AQ cohort
- Viral load was equivalent between NPS and saliva samples (Kendall's coefficient of concordance = 0,87)

Diagnostic results of nasopharyngeal swab (NPS) and saliva test

Contact-tracing cohort (n=161)			Airport Quarantine cohort (n=1,763)		
NPS	saliva		NPS	saliva	
	positive	negative		positive	negative
positive	38	3	positive	4	1
negative	6	114	negative	0	1758

	Sensitivity	Specificity
NPS	86% , $CI_{90\%}[77 - 93\%]$	99,93% , $CI_{90\%}[99,77 - 99,99\%]$
Saliva	92% , $CI_{90\%}[83 - 97\%]$	99,96% , $CI_{90\%}[99,85 - 100,00\%]$

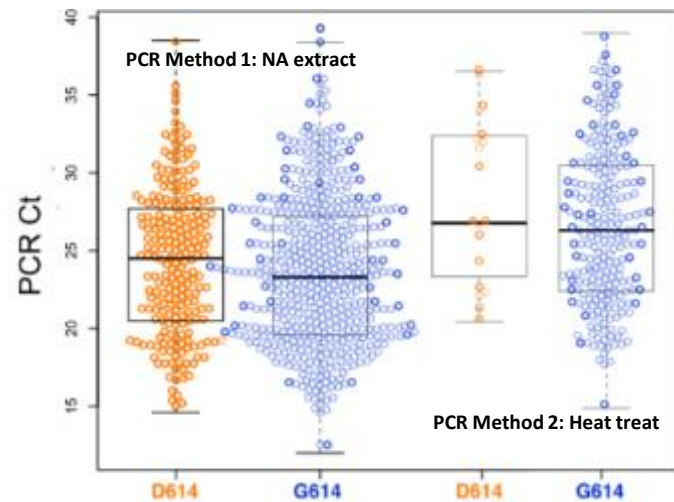
- **Equivalent utility with similar sensitivity and specificity,**
- **Self-collected saliva has significant advantages over NPS sampling,**
- **Saliva may be a reliable alternative in detecting SARS-CoV-2 in asymptomatic**
- **Limit:** the number of positive patients in the QC does not provide a strong evaluation of the saliva sensitivity in this population

Changes in SARS-CoV-2 Spike

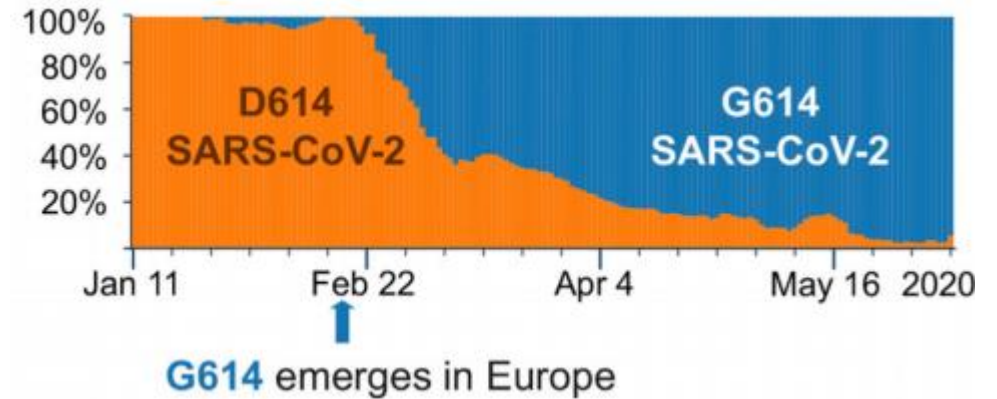
SARS-CoV-2 variant with Spike G614 has replaced D614 as the dominant pandemic form:

- Spike D614G amino acid change is caused by an A-to-G nucleotide mutation at position 23,403 in the Wuhan reference strain

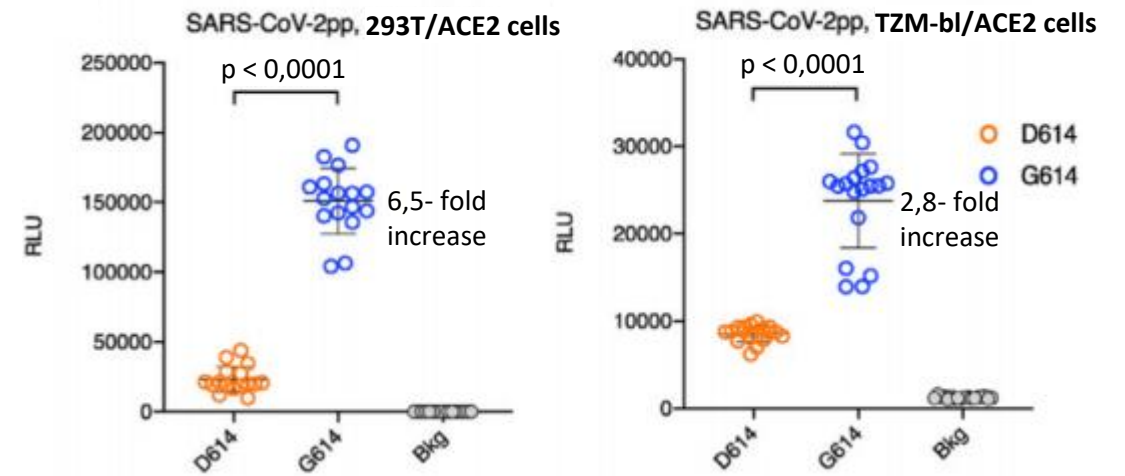
G614 Is Associated with Potentially Higher Viral Loads in COVID-19 Patients but not with disease severity:



- G614 is associated with a lower cycle threshold (Ct) required for detection (higher viral loads)



Recombinant lentiviruses pseudo typed with the G614 Spike more infectious than corresponding D614 S-pseudo typed viruses



Limits: this mutation is not single (*e.g.* associated to P314L in ORF1b) and represents the vast majority of cases in France among non-travelers since the very beginning of the outbreak

VIROLOGY (October 12th 2020)

1. Which type of virus is SARS-CoV-2?

- RNA viruses that belong to the *betacoronavirus* genus

2. What is the stability and viability of SARS-CoV-2?

- Stability is similar to that of SARS-CoV-1 under experimental circumstances tested
- Aerosol and fomite transmission of SARS-CoV-2 is plausible
- Some mutations have been selected since the beginning of the outbreak, but without proven clinical impact to date

3. What do we know about viral load and shedding according to different samples?

- Highest positive rates of SARS-CoV-2 in bronchoalveolar fluid among severe patients
- No influence of sex, age and disease severity on viral loads, has been observed
- Viral shedding may begin 2 to 3 days before first symptoms
- Detection of viral RNA does not necessarily mean that infectious virus is present, especially for low viral loads and >8 days from symptoms onset

4. What is the description of the immune responses in infected patients?

- IgG levels and neutralizing antibodies start to decrease within 2-3 months after infection

5. Alternative to the nasopharyngeal swab for SARS-CoV-2 detection?

- Saliva sample might be a good alternative to the NPS with several advantages, but asymptomatic populations are poorly characterized

Questions:

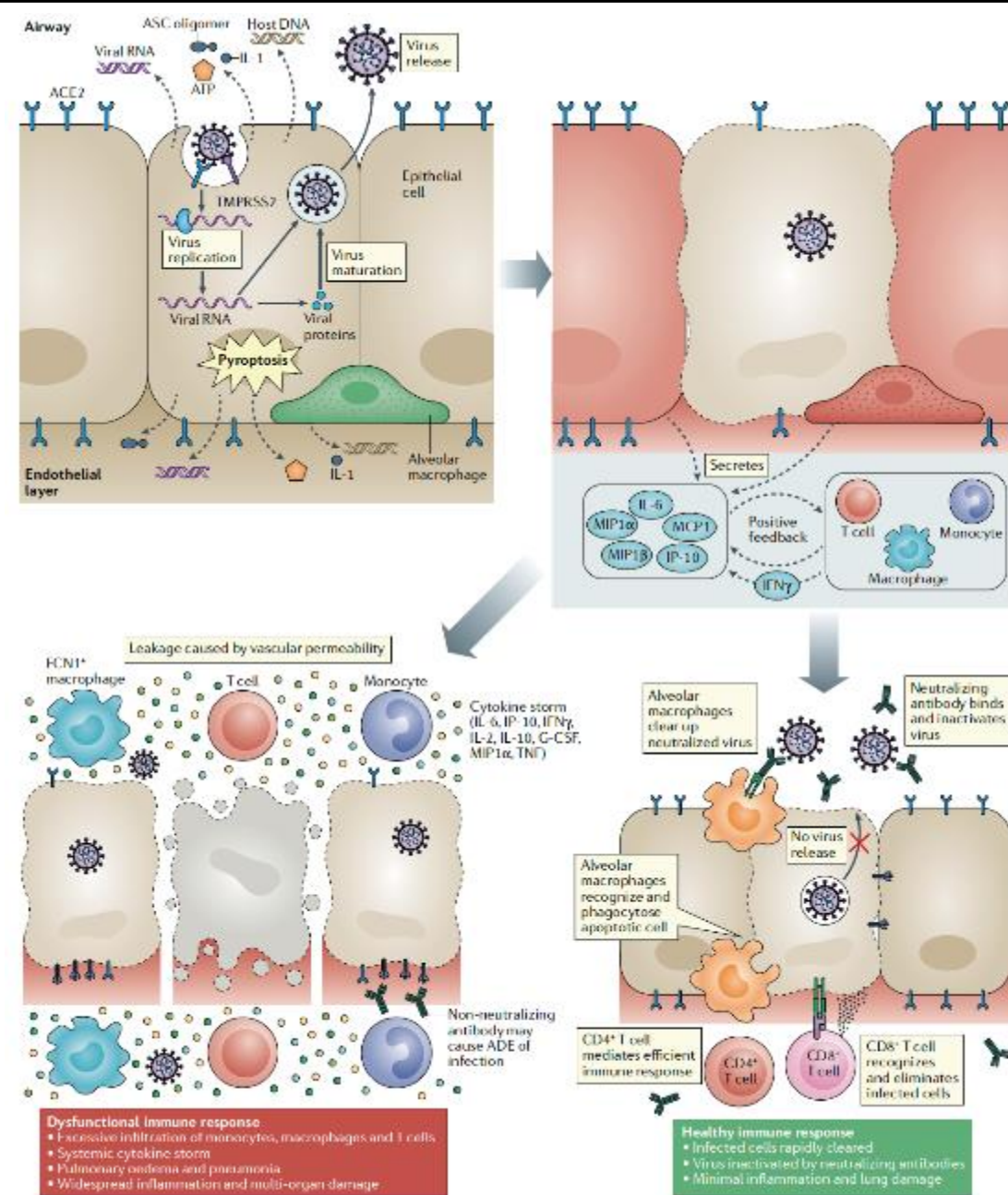
- What is the mechanism of action of SARS-CoV-2? Cell immunity?
- What is the clinical presentation of COVID-19 in adults and children?
- Is there multiple-organ damage?

Physiopathology

- **Binding** to host cell through ACE2 receptor by spike (S) protein
 - Lung, Kidney, Heart, Brain ...
- **Fusion** of the viral envelope with cellular membrane (TMPRSS2)
- Virus **hijacks** the cell machinery
- Host cell → **pyroptosis** and release damage-associated molecular
 - ATP, nucleic acid, ASC oligomer ...
- **Inflammatory response**
 - Pro-inflammatory cytokines & chemokines: IL-6, IP-10, MCP1 ...
- Attract other cells (monocytes, macrophage, T cells ...)
 - Pro-inflammatory feedback loop
 - Eliminates the infected cells before the virus spreads

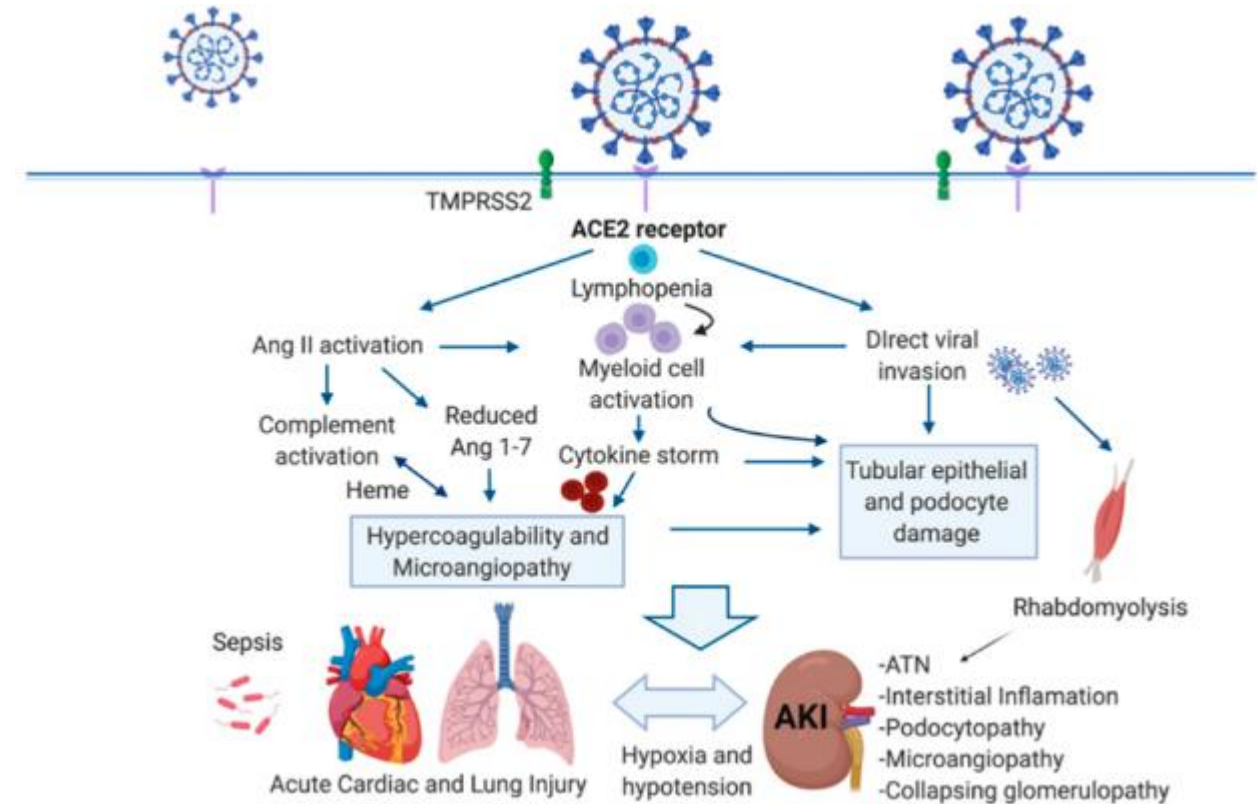
BUT sometimes (10 to 15 days after symptom onset)

- Accumulation of immune cells
 - **Cytokine storm**
 - Lung damage and multi-organ damage



Physiopathology

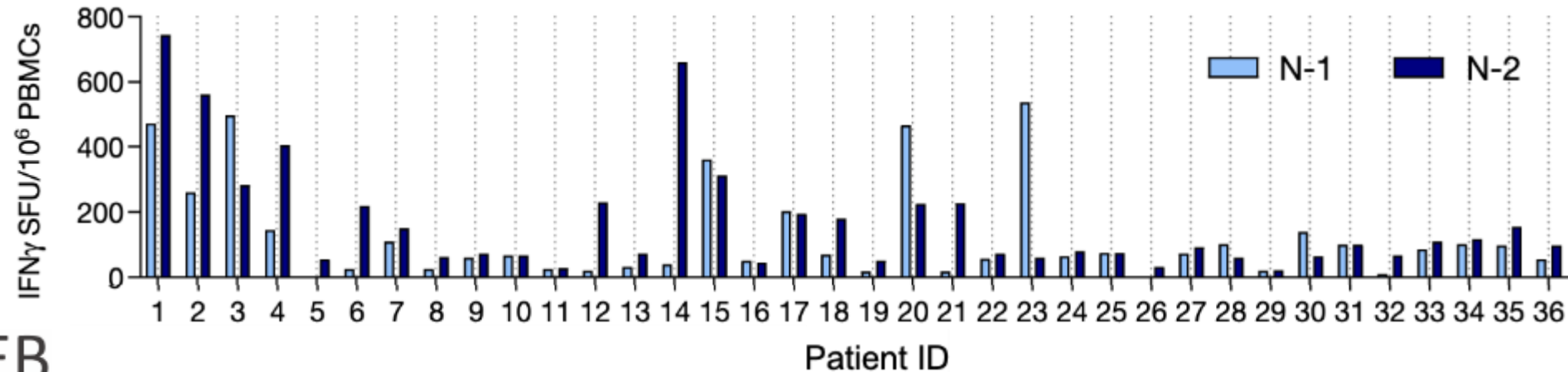
- SARS-CoV-2 targets ACE2 receptor and infected cells via « priming »
 - Renin- Angiotensin system dysregulation
 - Activation of innate and adaptative immune pathways
 - Cytokine storm
 - coagulation pathway → hypercoagulation
- Multi-organ damage
 - Kidney, heart, lungs, vessel, immune system



SARS-CoV-2 specific T cell immunity

SARS-CoV2 specific T cells in patients with COVID-19

- 36 individuals after recovery from mild to severe COVID-19.
- T cell response against selected structural (N) and non-structural proteins (NSP7, NSP13 & ORF1).
- Use of an unbiased method with overlapping peptides.
- Peripheral blood mononuclear cell (PBMC) of the 36 patients were stimulated for 18h with the different peptides pools.
- **In 36 out of 36 individuals, found specific T cell that recognized multiple regions of the N-protein (IFN γ spot)**



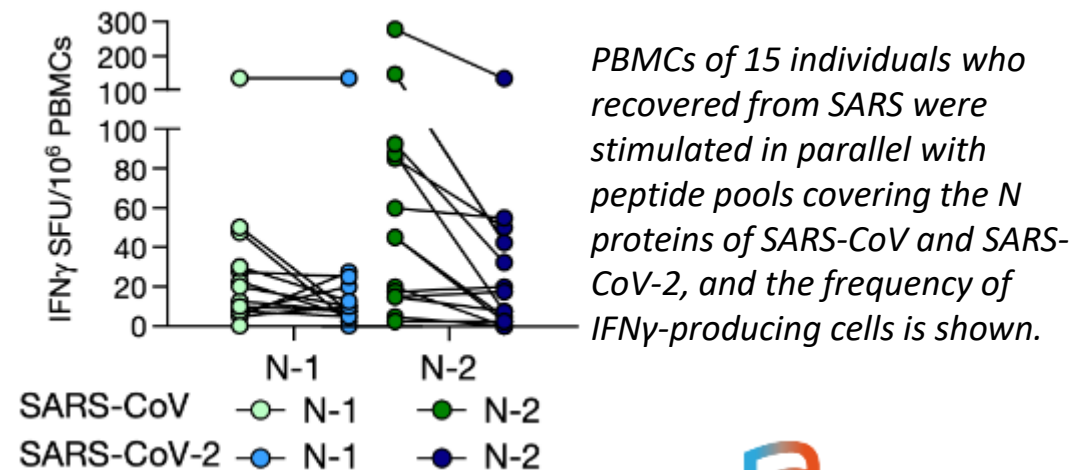
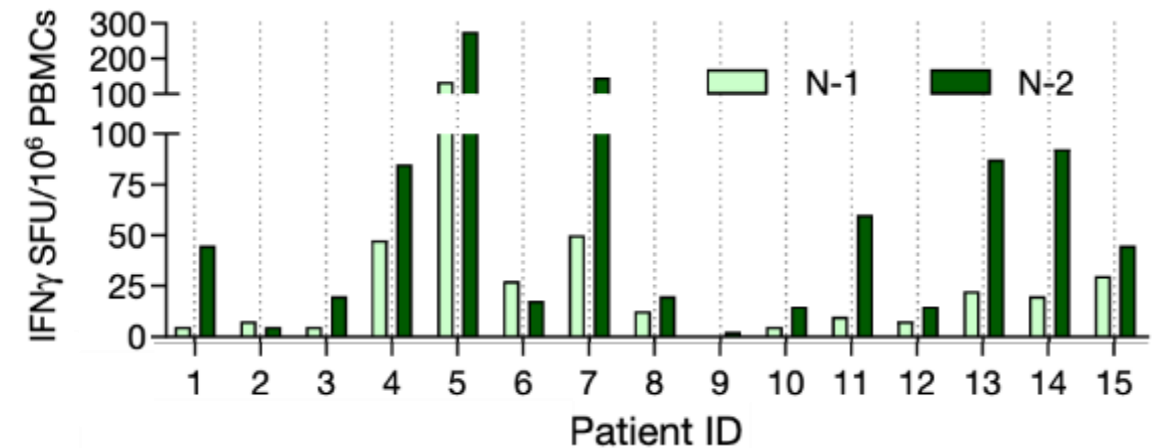
SARS-CoV-2 specific T cell immunity

SARS-CoV2 specific T cells in patients with SARS

- Patients who recovered from SARS have T cells that are specific to epitopes within different SARS-CoV proteins.
- Collected PBMCs 17 years after SARS-CoV infection from 15 individuals.
- **17 years after infection, IFN γ responses to SARS-CoV peptides were still present.**
- These T cells displayed robust cross-reactivity to the N protein of SARS-CoV-2.
- SARS-CoV-2 N-specific T cells are part of the T cell repertoire of individuals with a history of SARS-CoV infection and these T cells are able to robustly expand after encountering N peptides of SARS-CoV-2.

→ **Supporting the notion that patients with COVID-19 will develop long-term T cell immunity.**

PBMCs isolated from 15 individuals who recovered from SARS 17 years ago were stimulated with SARS-CoV



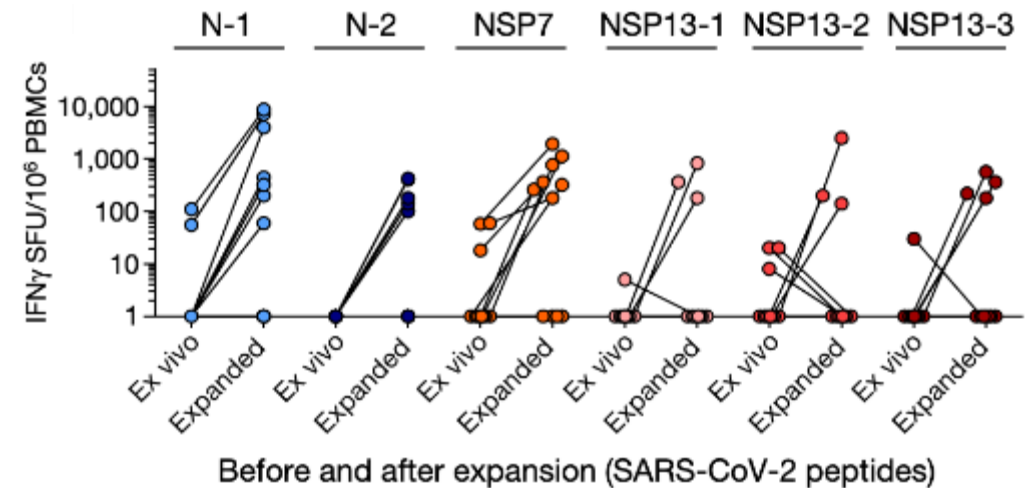
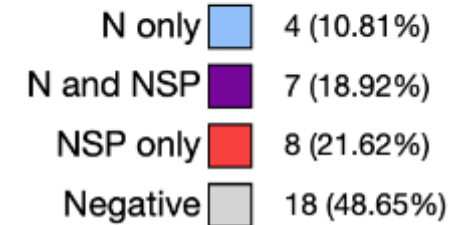
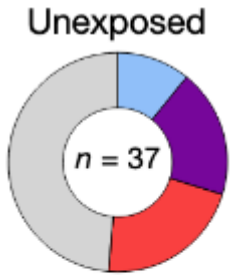
SARS-CoV-2 specific T cell immunity

SARS-CoV2 specific T cells in unexposed donors

- 37 donors: not exposed to SARS-CoV and SARS-CoV-2
- **Detection of SARS-CoV-2-specific IFN γ responses in 19 out of 37 unexposed donor.**
- The unexposed group showed a mixed response to the N protein or to NSP7 and NSP13.
- These SARS-CoV-2-reactive cells from unexposed donors had the capacity to expand after stimulation with SARS-CoV-2-specific peptides.

→ Infection with betacoronaviruses induces multi-specific and long lasting T cell immunity against the structural N protein.

The percentage of individuals with N-specific responses



Antibody response to SARS-CoV-2

Cohort of 149 cases and contacts: 111 with SAR-CoV-2 PCR positive + 46 close contacts.

Free of symptoms at least 14 days at the time of sample collection.

→ Convalescent plasma samples

- Binding to SARS-CoV-2 RBD and trimetric S protein?

IgG response: 78% showed anti-RBD and 70% anti-S

IgM response: 15% showed anti-RBD and 34% anti-S

Anti-RBD IgG levels → moderately correlated with age and severity

- Neutralizing activities? → the half-maximal neutralizing titer (NT_{50})

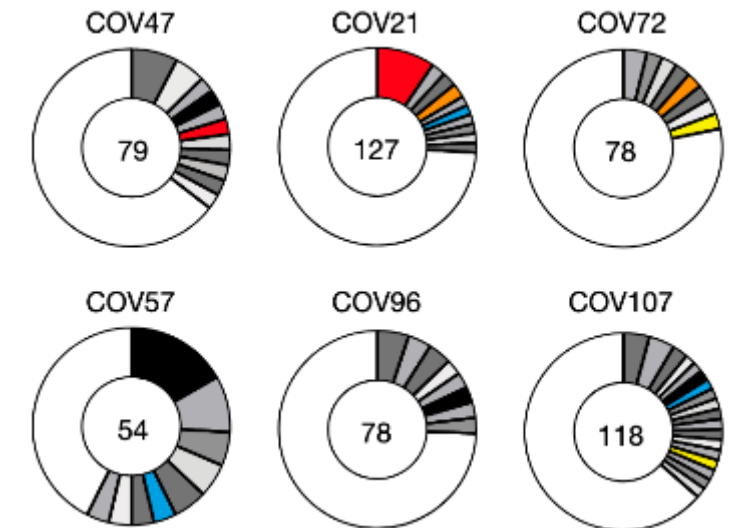
Generally low: $NT_{50} < 50$ in 33% of samples and < 1000 in 79%

- Nature of the antibodies elicited by SARS-CoV-2 infection?

Expanded clones of viral antigen-binding B cells in all tested individuals convalescent after COVID-19.

95% of the antibodies tested bound to SARS-CoV-2 RBD with an average EC_{50} of 6,9 ng/ml

*The distribution of antibody sequences from six individuals
The number in the inner circle indicates the number of sequences analyzed for the individual denoted above the circle. White indicates sequences isolated only once, and grey or colored pie slices are proportional to the number of clonally related sequences.*



Antibody response to SARS-CoV-2

- Do monoclonal antibodies have neutralizing activity?

Among 89 RBD-binding antibodies tested, we found 52 that neutralized SARS-CoV-2 pseudovirus with IC50 values ranging from 3 to 709 ng/ml.

Potent neutralizing antibodies found irrespective of the NT₅₀ values.

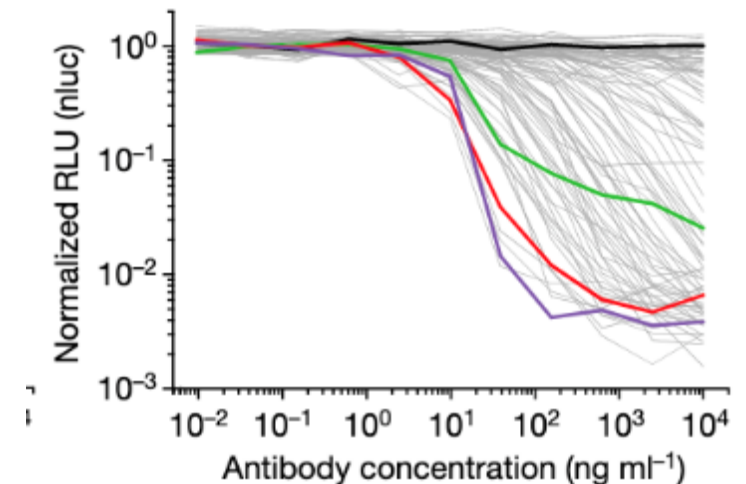
→ Even individuals with modest plasma neutralizing activity have rare IgG memory B cells that produce potent SARS-CoV-2-neutralizing antibodies.

Plasma neutralizing activity is low in most convalescent individuals

Recurrent anti-SARS-CoV-2 RBD antibodies with potent neutralizing activity can be found in all individuals.

A vaccine designed to elicit such antibodies could be broadly effective.

The normalized relative luminescence values for cell lysates of 293TACE2 cells 48 h after infection with SARS-CoV-2 pseudovirus in the presence of increasing concentrations of monoclonal antibodies.



Auto-antibodies & type I IFN & COVID-19

Neutralizing auto-Abs against type I IFN could lead to life-threatening COVID-19 pneumoniae?

987 patients hospitalized for life-threatening COVID-19

663 patients asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic (COVID-19)

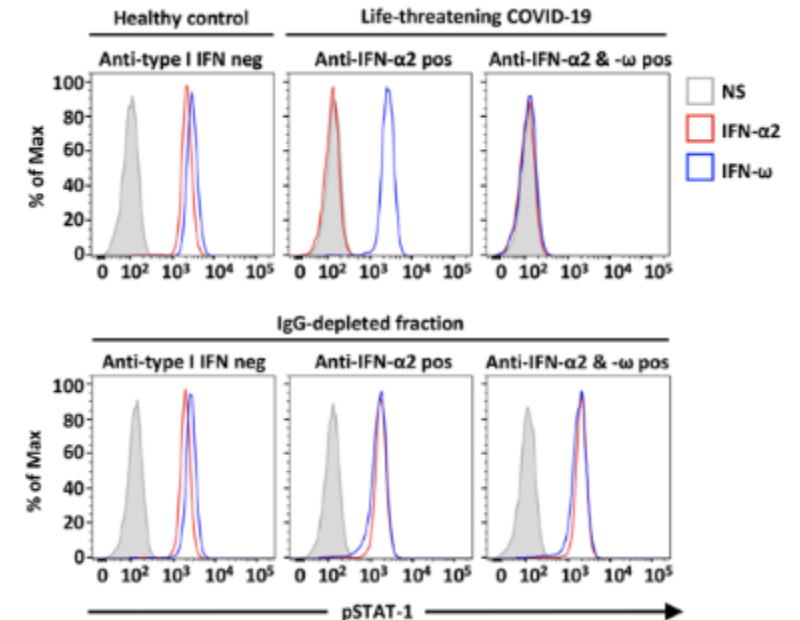
1227 healthy controls

Auto-antibodies against IFN- α 2 and/or IFN- ω ?

- 135 of 987 critically ill patients had IgG auto-Abs against at least one type I IFN.

Auto-Abs neutralize IFN- α 2 and/or IFN- ω in vitro?

- 101 of 987 life-threatening COVID-19 had neutralizing IgG auto-Abs against at least one type I IFN:
 - 51% against IFN- α 2 and IFN- ω ,
 - 36% against IFN- α 2 only,
 - 13% against IFN- ω only.
- Auto-Abs detected in only 4 of 1227 controls and none of 663 asymptomatic or mild-symptomatic patients.



FACS plots depicting IFN- α 2- or IFN- ω -induced pSTAT1 in the presence of 10% healthy control or anti-IFN- α 2/ ω - auto-Ab-containing patient plasma (top panel) or an IgG-depleted plasma fraction (bottom panel).

IgG depletion from patients with auto-Abs restored normal pSTAT1 induction after IFN- α 2 and IFN- ω stimulation.

Auto-antibodies & type I IFN & COVID-19

Auto-Abs against all IFN- α subtypes?

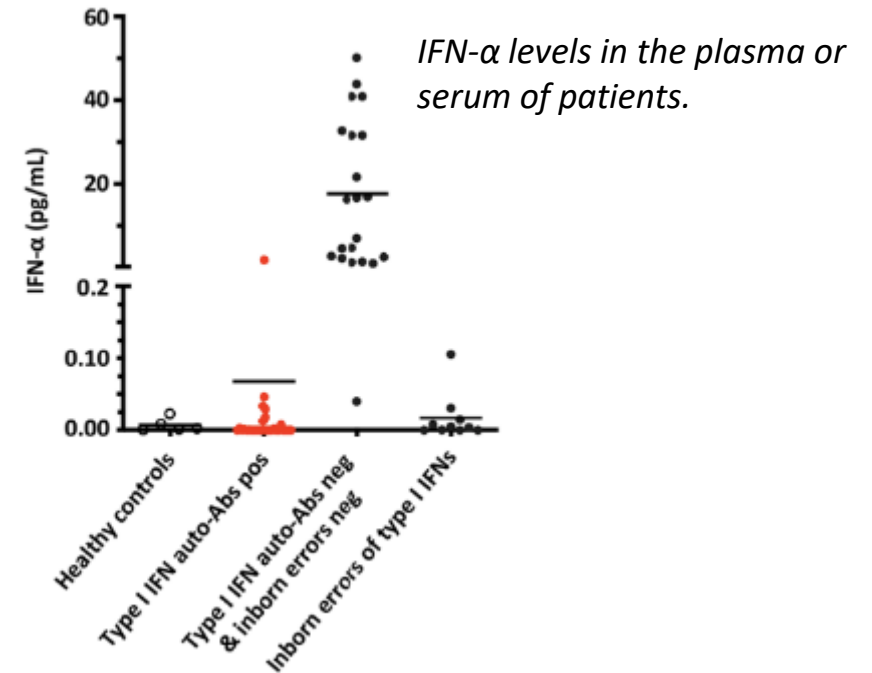
- All patients (22) with neutralizing auto-Abs against IFN- α 2 had auto-Abs against all 13 IFN- α subtypes
- **Early treatment with IFN- α is unlikely to be beneficial**

Auto-Abs against IFN- β ?

- 1,9% of the patients had auto-Abs against IFN- β
- All were severe COVID-19
- **Treatment with injected or nebulized IFN- β may have beneficial effects**

In vitro and in vivo?

- In patients with neutralizing auto-Abs against IFN- α 2, the baseline levels of type I IFN-dependent transcripts were low,
- Neutralizing in vitro & in vivo
- Suggesting a pre-existing or concomitant biological impact in vivo



→ **Auto-Abs against type I IFNs are a cause of severe SARS-CoV-2 infection.**

→ Provides an explanation for the major sex bias in severe COVID-19 and the increase in risk with age

→ Clinical and therapeutic implications

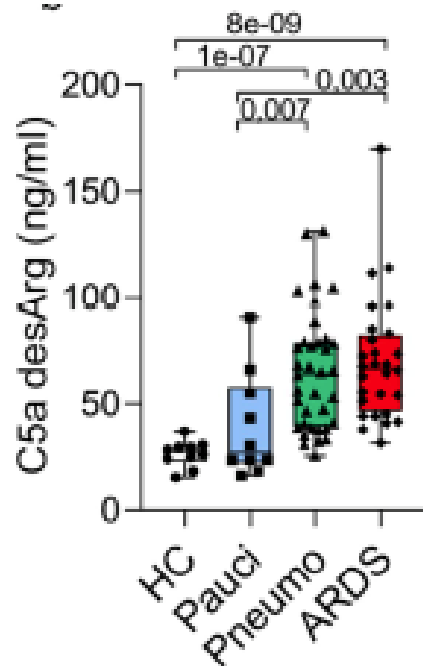
C5a-C5aR1 axis & COVID-19

C5a anaphylatoxin and its receptor C5aR1 play a key role in the initiation and maintenance of inflammatory response

- Recruiting and activating neutrophils and monocytes

82 individuals: 10 healthy control, 10 paucisymptomatic COVID-19, 34 with pneumonia & 28 with ARDS due to SARS-CoV-2.

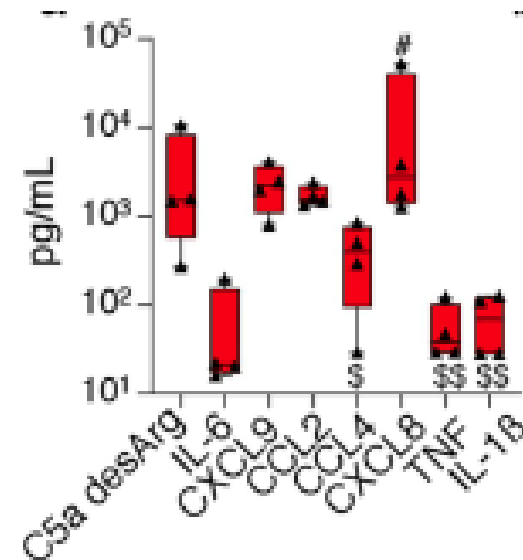
Concentration of C5a desArg in plasma



An increase in plasma C5a levels proportional to COVID-19 severity.

Increased systemic and local complement pathway activities on the peripheral blood.

C5a is detected in lung sample from COVID-19 patients



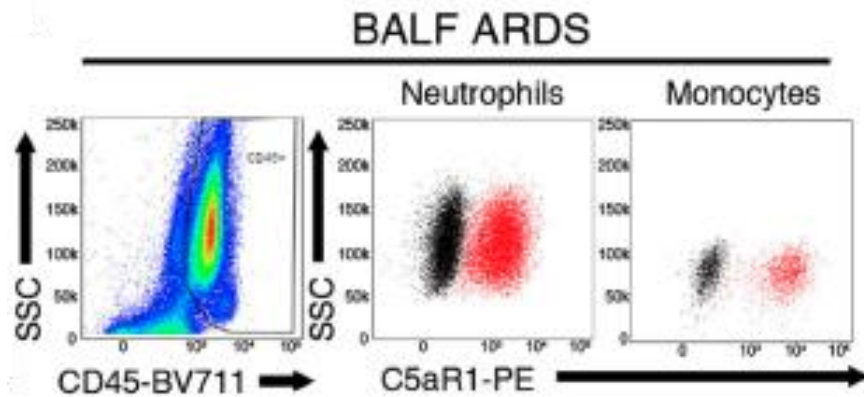
Saliva specimens could be effective in the diagnosis of COVID-19

C5a-C5aR1 axis & COVID-19

C5a production leads to the chemo-attraction and activation of myeloid cells in the lung → release of inflammatory cytokines.

Possible that the vasculitis associated with severe COVID-19 is linked to the production of C5a.

*CD45⁺ immune cell infiltration in BALF
C5a-R1 expression (red)*



Neutrophils and monocytes in BALF expressed C5aR1.

Potential therapeutic strategy → C5a-C5aR1 axis blockade.
Avdoralimab = mAb against C5aR1.

In vitro:

- inhibited C5a-induced neutrophil activation,
- Inhibited the C5a-induced migration of neutrophils.

In mice:

- Mice received an intranasal instillation of recombinant human C5a → developed ALI.
- Avdoralimab prevented albumin release in BALF
- Avdoralimab inhibited the increase in IL-6, TNF and CCL2.
- Avdoralimab inhibited ALI in mice

CR5a-C5aR1 axis blockade might be used to prevent the excessive lung inflammation and endothelialitis associated with ARDS in COVID-19 patients

Risk factors of mortality

The proportion of hospitalized and fatal SARS-CoV-2 cases per 100 000 individuals relative to the total Danish population within each age group

Nationwide cohort of all Danish individuals tested for SARS-CoV-2

The study cohort was linked to the Danish administrative and health registries

11 122 cases with PCR positive: 80% were community-managed & 20% were hospitalized (whereas 2,8% in an ICU)

30 days all cause of mortality = 5,2%

Risk factors of death:

Sex:

- adjusted for age and number of co-morbidities, ORs = 2,1; CI_{95%} [1.7–2.6] for men

Age:

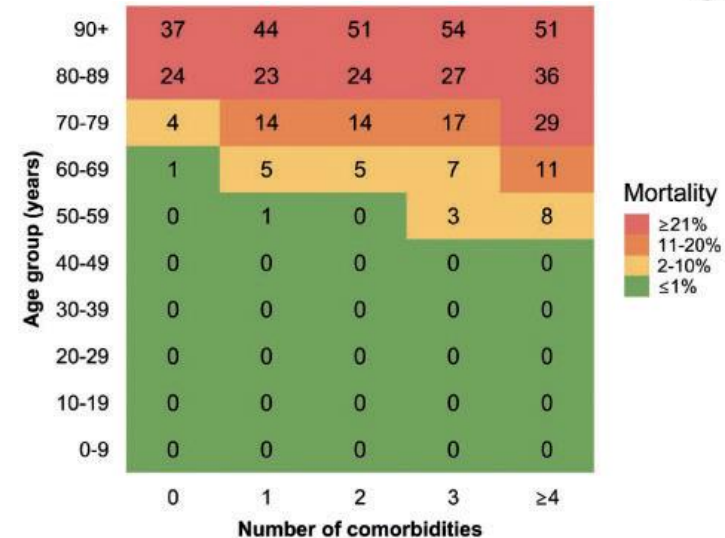
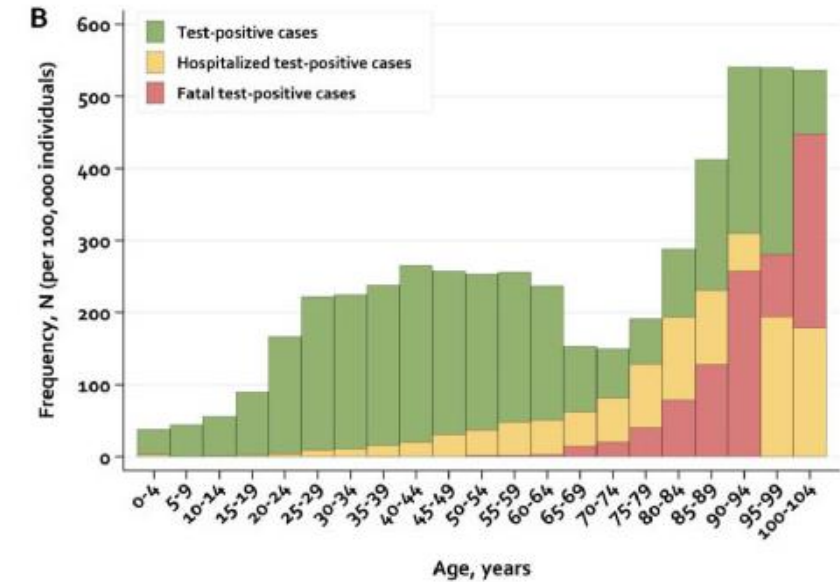
- 70 – 79 years: OR= 15; CI_{95%} [9– 26]
- 80-89 years: OR= 30; CI_{95%} [17–52]
- >90 years: OR= 90; CI_{95%} [50–162]

Number of co-morbidities:

- OR=5.2; CI_{95%} [3.4–8.0], for cases with at least four co-morbidities
- 79% of deaths had at least two co-morbidities

Chronic diseases:

- Ischemic heart disease & hypertension → ORs 1,1 to 1,3
- Major psychiatric disorders & organ transplantation → ORs 2,5 to 3,2



Proportion of patients dying among SARS-CoV-2 PCR-positive cases within different subgroups of age and number of comorbidities

Antihypertensive drugs & COVID-19

- Observational study
- Lombardy Region in Italy - data extracted from the registry
- February 21 to March 11
- Patient older than 40 years
- 6272 cases matched to 30759 controls (on age, sex & municipality residence)
- Use of antihypertensive drugs
 - ARBs 22,2% among cases and 19,2% among controls
 - ACE inhibitors 23,9% among cases and 21,4% among controls
- **Neither ARBs nor ACE inhibitors had a significant association with risk of COVID-19**
 - Risk similar for women and men
 - Not modified by age – severity of clinical manifestation – course of COVID-19
 - No evidence of an independent relationship between RAAS blockers and the susceptibility to COVID-19

Table 3. Odds Ratios for Covid-19 Associated with Use of Antihypertensive Drugs Dispensed as Monotherapy or Combination Therapy.

Variable	Odds Ratio for Covid-19 (95% CI)*	
	Unadjusted	Adjusted
No use during 2019	1.00 (reference)	1.00 (reference)
Use only as monotherapy	1.39 (1.28–1.51)	1.03 (0.90–1.18)
Use as combination therapy	1.60 (1.50–1.72)	0.99 (0.90–1.09)

* Shown are odds ratios for Covid-19 associated with drug use. Nonuse was considered as the reference. Estimates were obtained by fitting conditional logistic-regression models. Both unadjusted estimates and estimates that were fully adjusted for drugs and coexisting conditions are shown.

Limits

- Change in strategy to test for coronavirus during study
- Information on drug use is limited to prescription
- Exposure to antihypertensive drug not available after December 2019
- Control group included persons with COVID-19
- Unmeasured confounders

Antihypertensive drugs & COVID-19

- Observational study
- New-York University - Use of the NYU Langone Health
- March 1 to April 15, 2020
- All patients with Covid-19 test results recorded
- Extracted from the chart (preceding 18 months)
 - Medical history
 - Medication data
- For a given medication, used a propensity-score models that adjusted for multiple variable
- 12594 patients
 - 5894 COVID-19+
 - 4357 history of hypertension → 2573 COVID-19+
- **No association with any medication studied of**
 - **Risk of severe COVID-19**
 - **Increased likelihood of a positive test**

→ Rule out that the risk was higher among treated patients than among untreated patients

Table 3. Likelihood of Severe Covid-19, According to Treatment with Various Antihypertensive Agents, in Propensity-Score–Matched Patients with a Positive Test for Covid-19, with Hypertension and Overall.*

Medication	Matched Patients with Hypertension			All Matched Patients		
	Severe Covid-19 in Patients Treated with Medication	Severe Covid-19 in Patients Not Treated with Medication	Median Difference (95% CI)	Severe Covid-19 in Patients Treated with Medication	Severe Covid-19 in Patients Not Treated with Medication	Median Difference (95% CI)
	no./total no. (%)	no./total no. (%)	percentage points	no./total no. (%)	no./total no. (%)	percentage points
ACE inhibitor	139/584 (23.8)	158/583 (27.1)	-3.3 (-8.2 to 1.7)	150/627 (23.9)	169/653 (25.9)	-1.9 (-6.6 to 2.8)
ARB	161/629 (25.6)	156/612 (25.5)	0.1 (-4.8 to 4.9)	162/664 (24.4)	165/639 (25.8)	-1.4 (-6.1 to 3.3)
ACE inhibitor or ARB	252/1019 (24.7)	249/986 (25.3)	-0.5 (-4.3 to 3.2)	275/1110 (24.8)	274/1101 (24.9)	-0.1 (-3.7 to 3.5)
Beta-blocker	210/792 (26.5)	231/829 (27.9)	-1.4 (-5.7 to 3.0)	230/912 (25.2)	250/976 (25.6)	-0.4 (-4.3 to 3.6)
Calcium-channel blocker	253/950 (26.6)	207/930 (22.3)	4.4 (0.5 to 8.2)	263/992 (26.5)	235/976 (24.1)	2.4 (-1.4 to 6.2)
Thiazide diuretic	116/515 (22.5)	114/520 (21.9)	0.6 (-4.5 to 5.7)	120/549 (21.9)	149/590 (25.3)	-3.4 (-8.3 to 1.6)

* Severe Covid-19 was defined as admission to the intensive care unit, the use of noninvasive or invasive mechanical ventilation, or death.

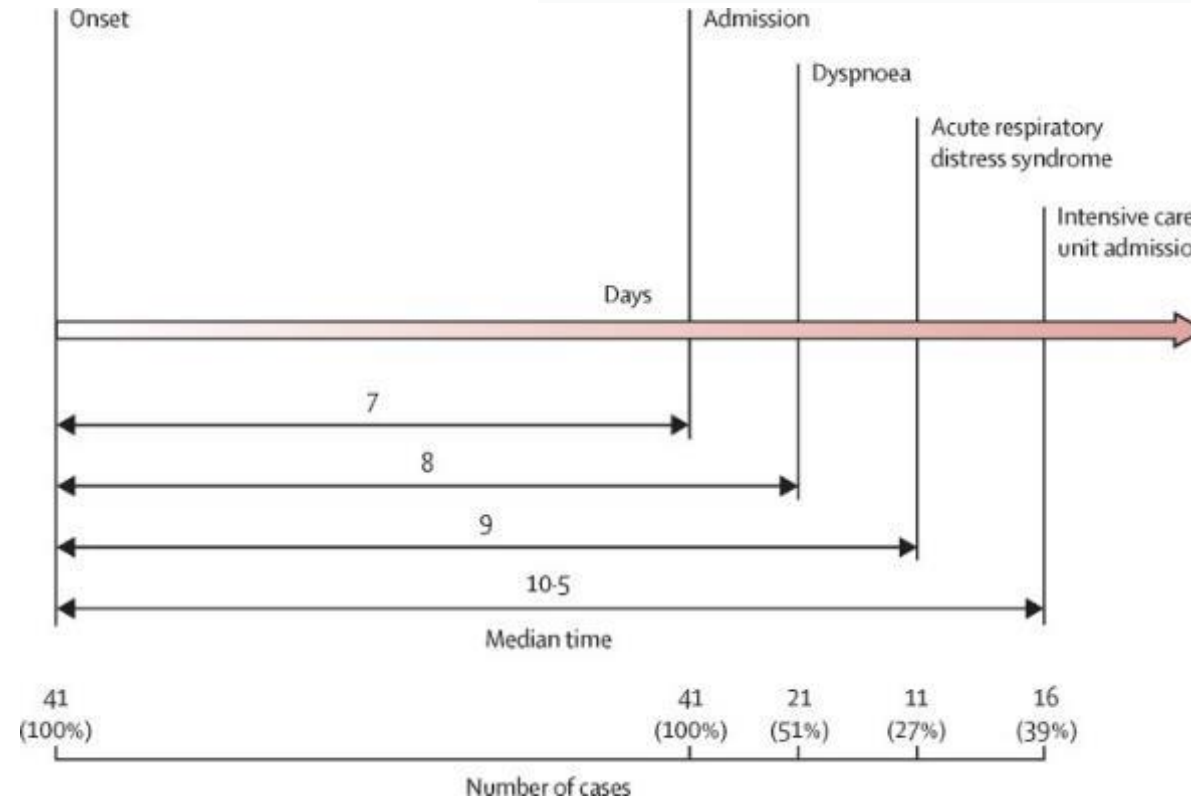
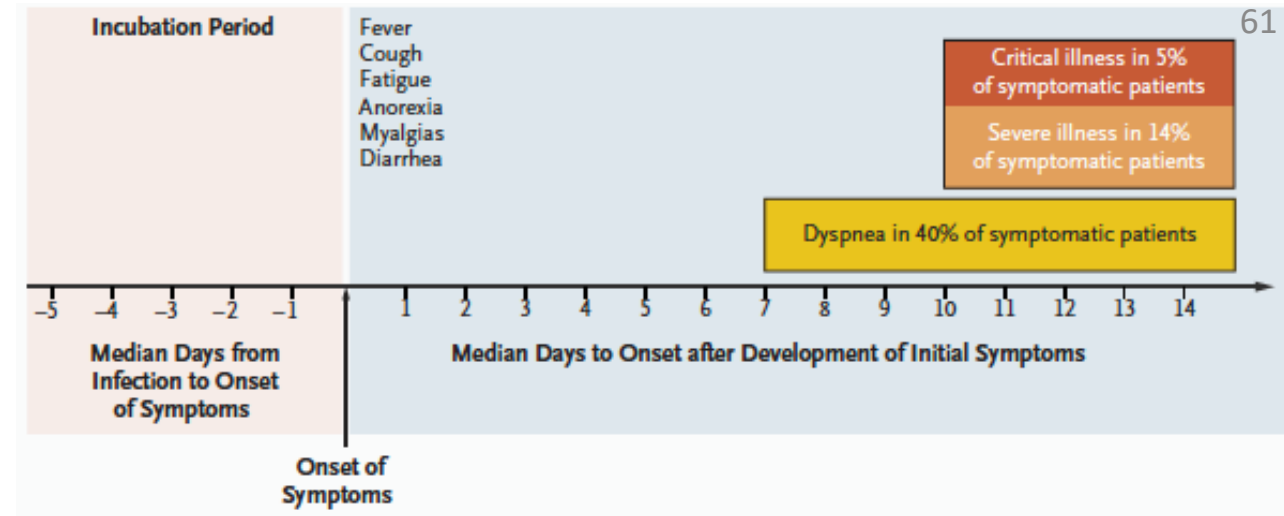
Limits

- Variation in the diagnostic characteristic for the COVID-19 testing method
- Multiple tests for some patients
- Some patients may have been tested at other health systems
- May not reflect actual drug exposure
- Not account for socioeconomic status, insurance, ...
- Additional unmeasured confounders

Clinical features

Median time (41 patients admitted to hospital)

- From onset of symptoms to first hospital admission
 - **7 days** [4,0–8,0]
- From illness onset to dyspnea
 - **8 days** [5,0–13,0]
- To ARDS
 - **9 days** [8,0–14,0]
- To ICU admission
 - **10,5 days**
- To mechanical ventilation
 - **10,5 days** [7,0–14,0]



Clinical features

China, **1 590 hospitalized** patients (13,4% of all cases reported in China)

Age (median): 48,9 ± 16,3 years

Male: 904 (57,3 %)

Comorbidities

- Hypertension: 16,9 %
- Diabetes: 8,2 %
- CHD: 3,7 %
- Cerebrovascular disease: 1,9 %
- COPD: 1,5 %
- Chronic kidney disease: 1,3 %
- Malignancy: 1,1 %

Symptoms

- Fever: 88 %
- Cough: >70 %
- Fatigue: 42,8 %
- Shortness of breath: 20,8 %
- Myalgia/arthralgia: 17,5 %

Abnormal chest CT: 1130 (71,1 %)

Outcomes

- Pharyngalgia: 14,7 %
- Headache: 15,4 %
- Chill: 12,2 %
- Nausea/vomiting: 5,8 %
- Diarrhea: 4,2 %
- Critical illness: 131 (8,24 %)
- ICU admission: 99 (6,23 %)
- Mechanical ventilation: 50 (3,1 %)

Case fatality rate: 50 (3,1 %)

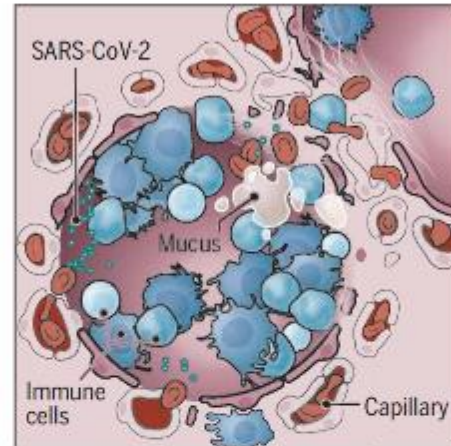
Organ damage

An invader's impact

In serious cases, SARS-CoV-2 lands in the lungs and can do deep damage there. But the virus, or the body's response to it, can injure many other organs. Scientists are just beginning to probe the scope and nature of that harm.

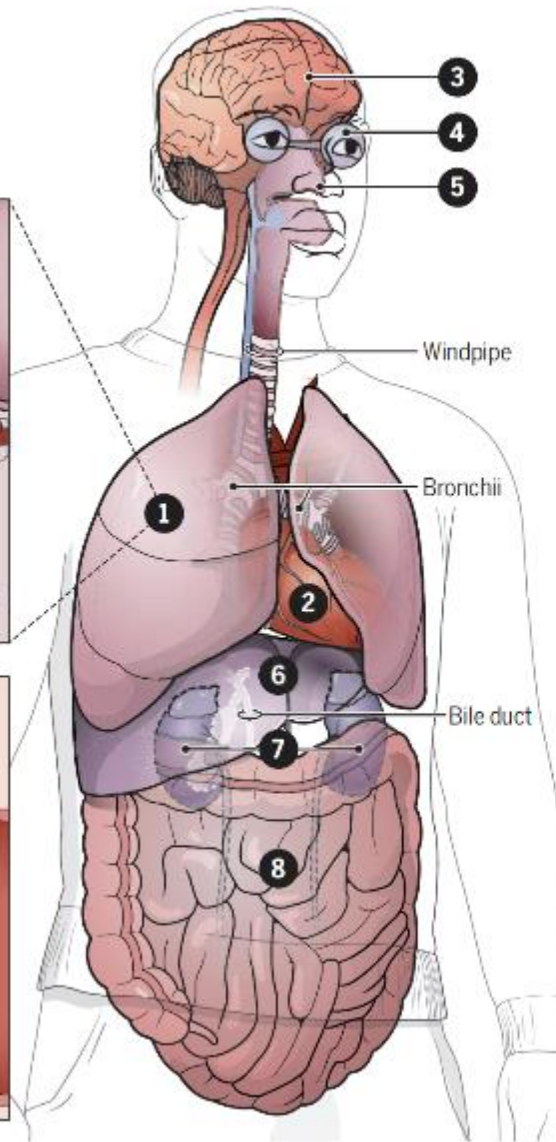
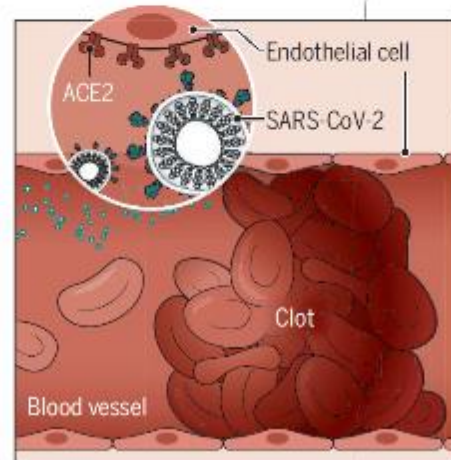
1 Lungs

A cross section shows immune cells crowding an inflamed alveolus, or air sac, whose walls break down during attack by the virus, diminishing oxygen uptake. Patients cough, fevers rise, and breathing becomes labored.



2 Heart and blood vessels

The virus (teal) enters cells, likely including those lining blood vessels, by binding to angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 (ACE2) receptors on the cell surface. Infection can also promote blood clots, heart attacks, and cardiac inflammation.



3 Brain

Some COVID-19 patients have strokes, seizures, confusion, and brain inflammation. Doctors are trying to understand which are directly caused by the virus.

4 Eyes

Conjunctivitis, inflammation of the membrane that lines the front of the eye and inner eyelid, is more common in the sickest patients.

5 Nose

Some patients lose their sense of smell. Scientists speculate that the virus may move up the nose's nerve endings and damage cells.

6 Liver

Up to half of hospitalized patients have enzyme levels that signal a struggling liver. An immune system in overdrive and drugs given to fight the virus may be causing the damage.

7 Kidneys

Kidney damage is common in severe cases and makes death more likely. The virus may attack the kidneys directly, or kidney failure may be part of whole-body events like plummeting blood pressure.

8 Intestines

Patient reports and biopsy data suggest the virus can infect the lower gastrointestinal tract, which is rich in ACE2 receptors. Some 20% or more of patients have diarrhea.

Radiology

Monocentric – from 16 January to 17 February

90 patients - Median follow up: 18 days [5 – 43]

CT interpretation (366 CT scan)

→ Each lung divided into 3 zones

→ Overall CT score (max = 24)

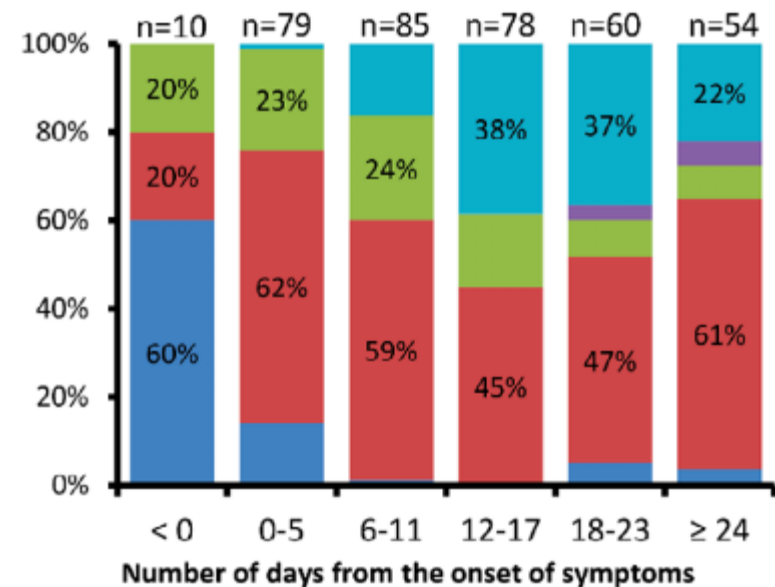
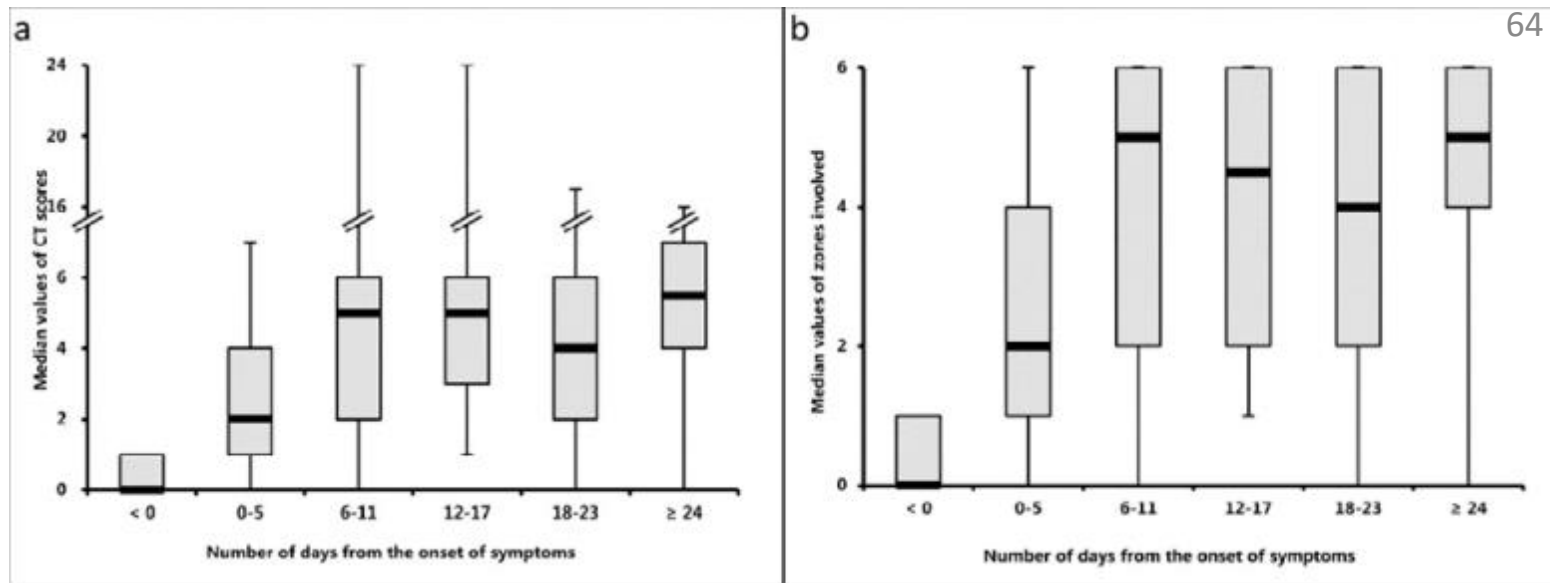
Results

- Increase median values of CT score with time
- Peak levels of lung involvement: 6-11d from symptom onset
- Ground glass opacity (GGO) is the most common finding
- More diverse manifestations around 6-11d and after
- Sensitivity of CT for SARS-CoV-2 increase over time
- At discharge: 64% still had abnormalities

Limitations : No subgroup analysis (mild and severe)

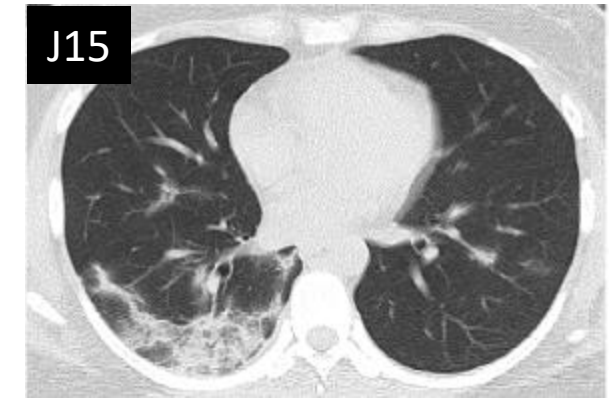
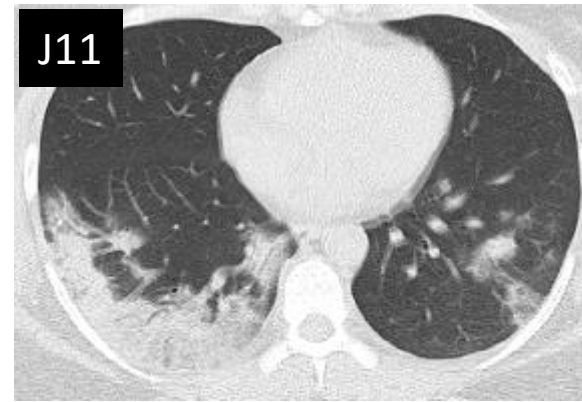
→ **Bilateral GGO is the most common manifestation**

→ **Rapid extension and specific pattern of evolution**



Radiology

Ground glass opacity in a 35-year-old woman with COVID-19 pneumonia



TIME



Heart & COVID-19

Acute myocarditis

- 7 – 17% of hospitalized patients
- 22 – 31% patients admitted in ICU
- 7% of COVID-19 related deaths

Acute myocardial infarction

- Viral illness → increase the risk
- Inflammation + hypercoagulability → increased risk

Acute heart failure

- 20-25% of patients in their initial presentation
- Increased risk of mortality
- New cardiomyopathy or exacerbation?

Dysrhythmias

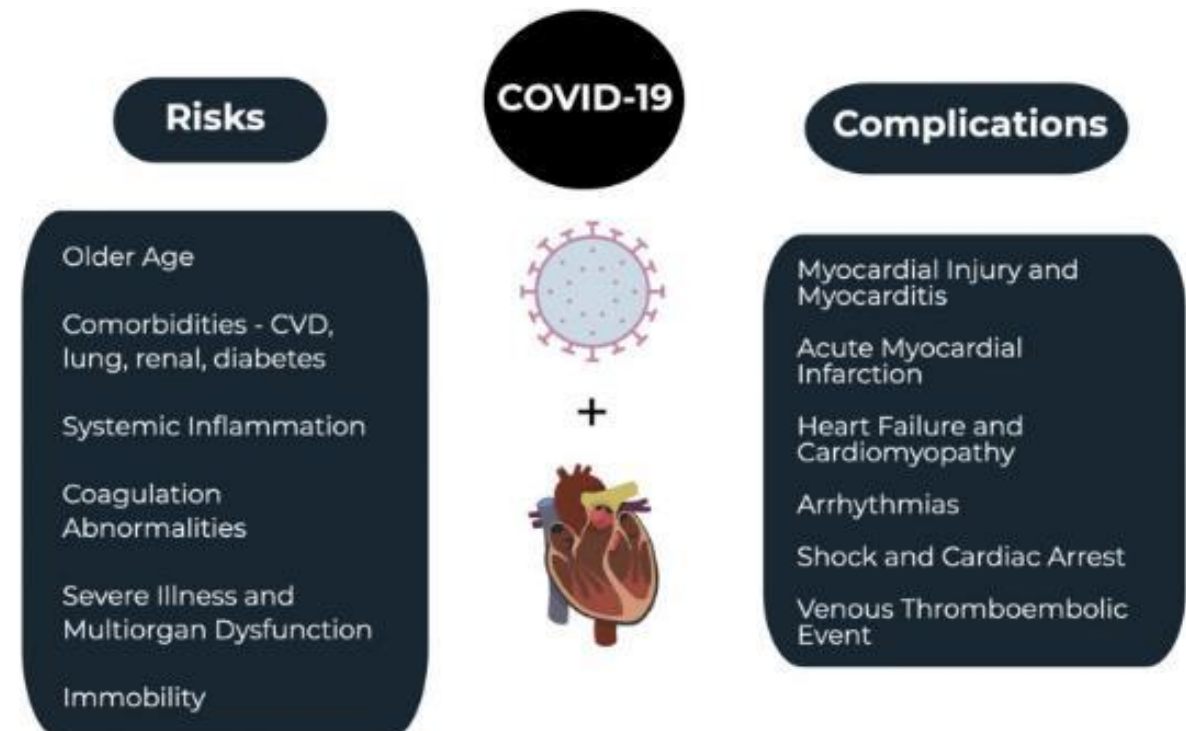
- 17% of hospitalized and 44% of ICU patients
- Hypoxia, inflammatory, abnormal metabolism

Venous thromboembolic event

- Increased risk
- Inflammation, organ dysfunction, abnormal coagulation
- 16-17% of pulmonary embolism

ECG and echocardiographic abnormalities

- Correlated with worse outcomes



Kidney & COVID-19

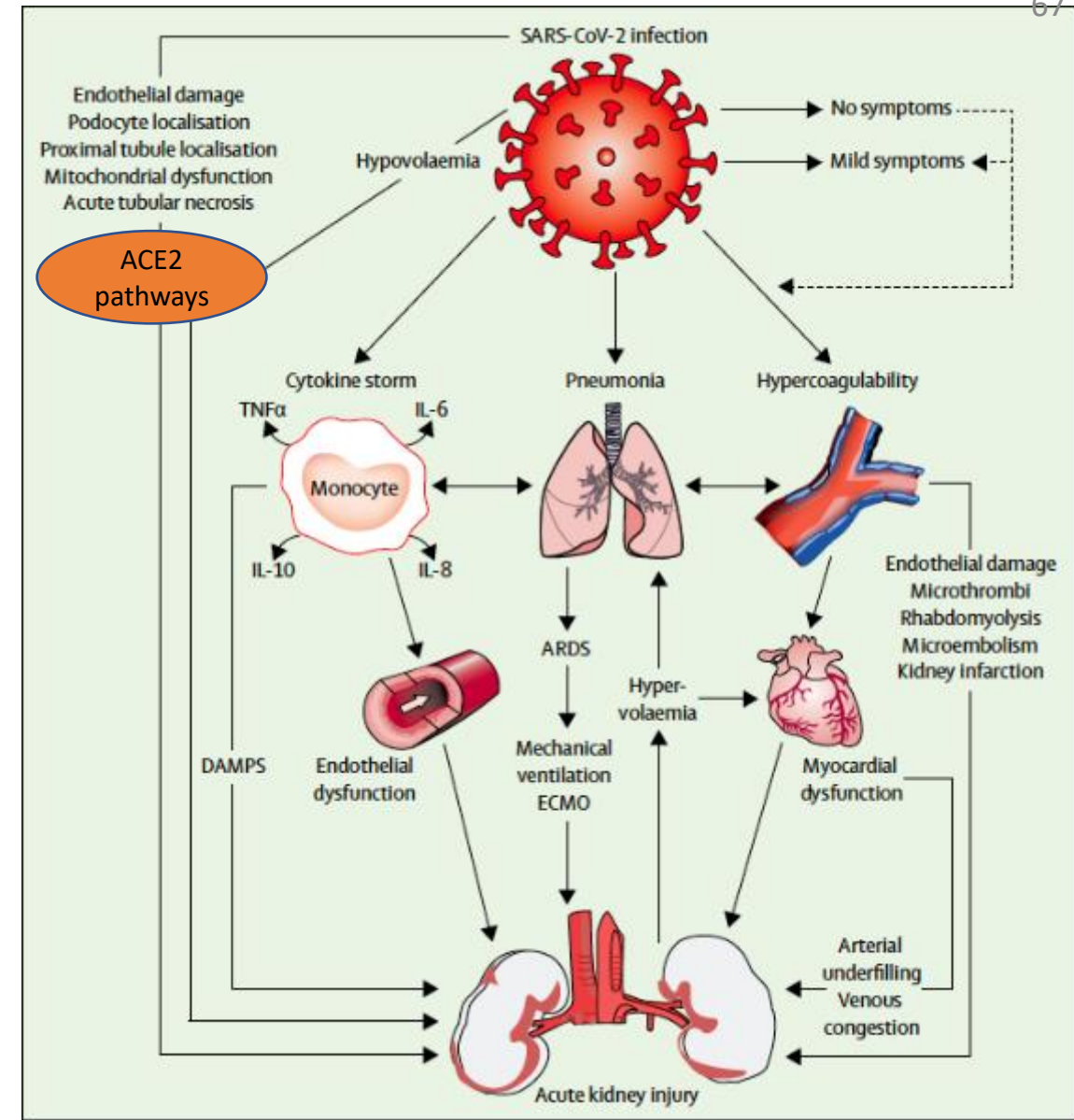
Introduction

- > 40% cases of COVID-19 have abnormal proteinuria at hospital admission
- Patients admitted to ICU with COVID-19:
 - 20 to 40% have an AKI
 - 20% require renal replacement therapy (RRT)

Pathophysiology → multifactorial with predisposing factors

Management

- Implementation of KDIGO guidelines
- Restore normal volume status
- Reduce the risk of
 - Pulmonary oedema
 - Right ventricular overload
 - Congestion
- Application of lung-protective ventilation
- RRT
 - Volume overload ± refractory hypoxemia
 - Right jugular vein
 - Anticoagulation protocols: LMWH or UFH



Kidney & COVID-19

Prospective cohort – 1 hospital in China – 701 patients

- Prevalence of acute kidney injury (AKI)?
- Association between markers of kidney injury and death?

Age (median): 63 years with 52,4% male

Illness onset to admission: 10 days

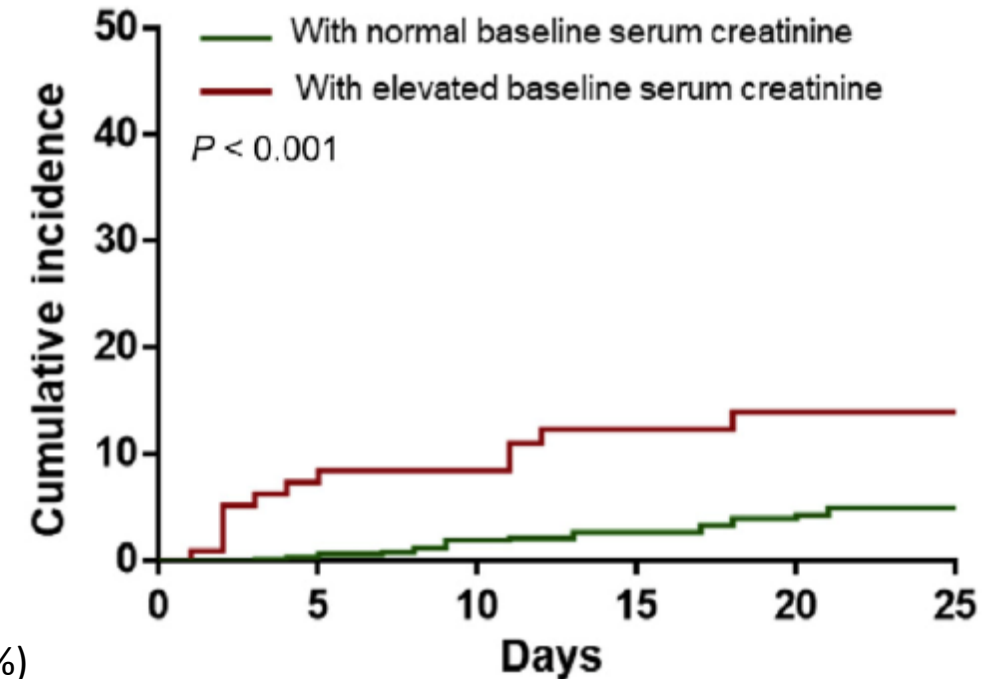
Kidney injury (at admission)

- Elevated serum creatinine (SC) at admission 14,4%
- Elevated BUN at admission 13,1%
- GFR<60 ml/min/1,73m² for 13,1%
- Proteinuria (43,9%) & hematuria (26,7%)

AKI and hospital death

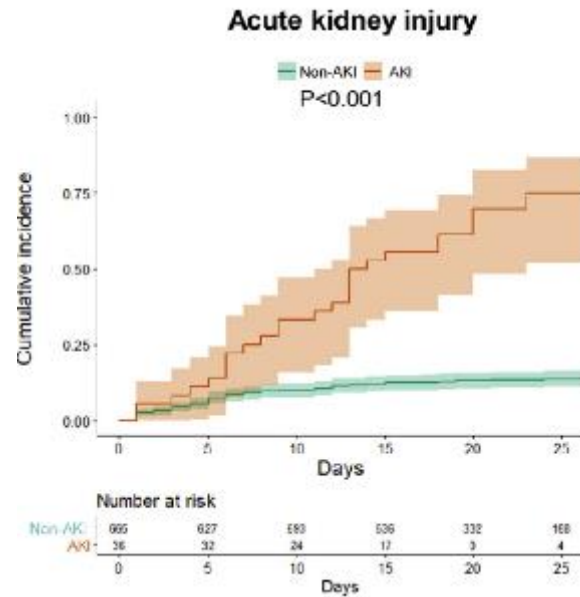
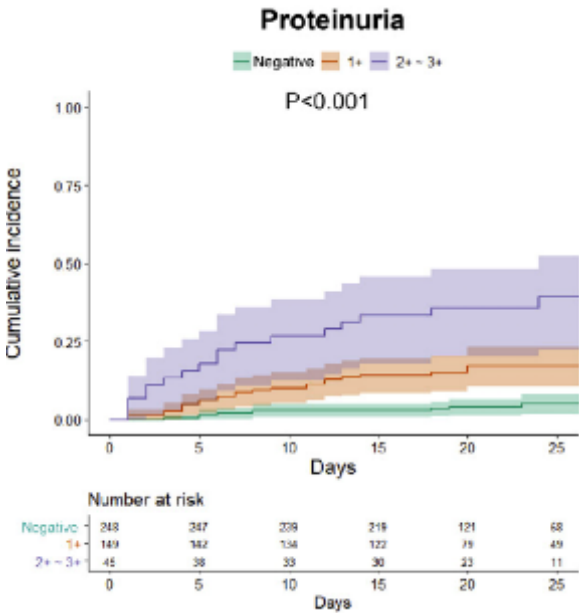
- Prevalence of AKI: 5,1% - higher in patients with elevated SC at admission(11,9%)
- In hospital death: 16,1%
 - 33,7% in patient with elevated SC at admission vs 13,2% others (p<0,05)

Cumulative incidence of AKI subgrouped by baseline serum creatinine



Kidney & COVID-19

Kidney abnormalities → ↑ in hospital death

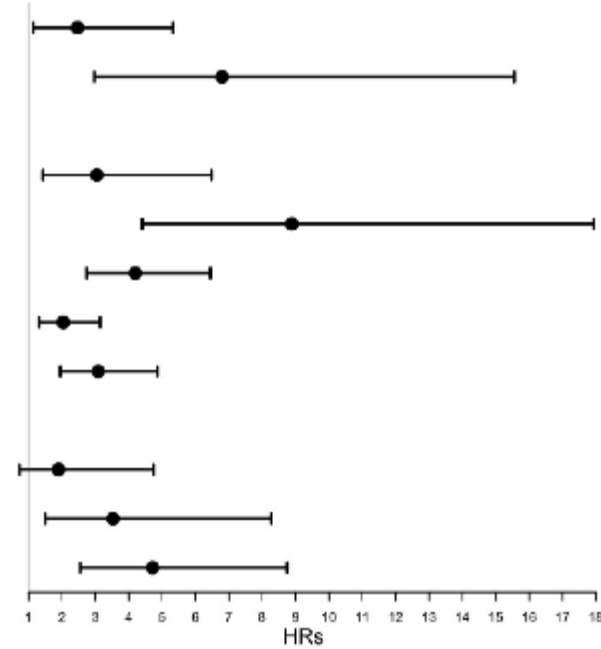


Cumulative incidence for in-hospital death

- High prevalence of kidney disease among hospitalized patients with COVID-19
- Association between kidney involvement and poor outcome
- Early detection and effective intervention of kidney involvement
- Impact on long-term outcomes?

After adjusting

Variables	HRs	95% CI
Proteinuria		
1+	2.47	1.15-5.33
2+ ~ 3+	6.80	2.97-15.56
Hematuria		
1+	3.05	1.43-6.49
2+ ~ 3+	8.89	4.41-17.94
Elevated baseline blood urea nitrogen	4.20	2.74-6.45
Elevated baseline serum creatinine	2.04	1.32-3.15
Peak serum creatinine > 133 μmol/l	3.09	1.95-4.87
Acute kidney injury		
Stage 1	1.90	0.76-4.75
Stage 2	3.53	1.50-8.27
Stage 3	4.72	2.55-8.75



Neuropsychiatric disorders & COVID-19

Online network of secure rapid-response case report notification portals (CoroNerve platforms)

From April 2 to April 26, 2020 in the UK

153 unique cases (correlated with the national case identification data)

- 114 = confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection
- 6 = probable SARS-CoV-2 infection
- 5 = possible SARS-CoV-2 infection
- 28 excluded because missing data

4 clinical syndromes associated with COVID-19

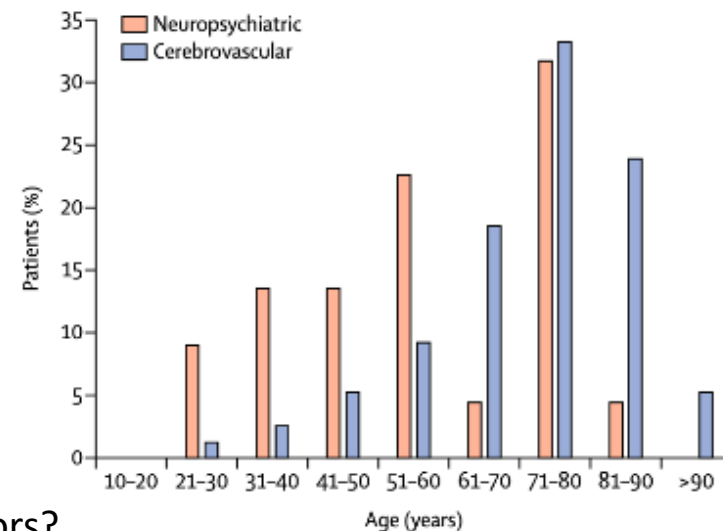
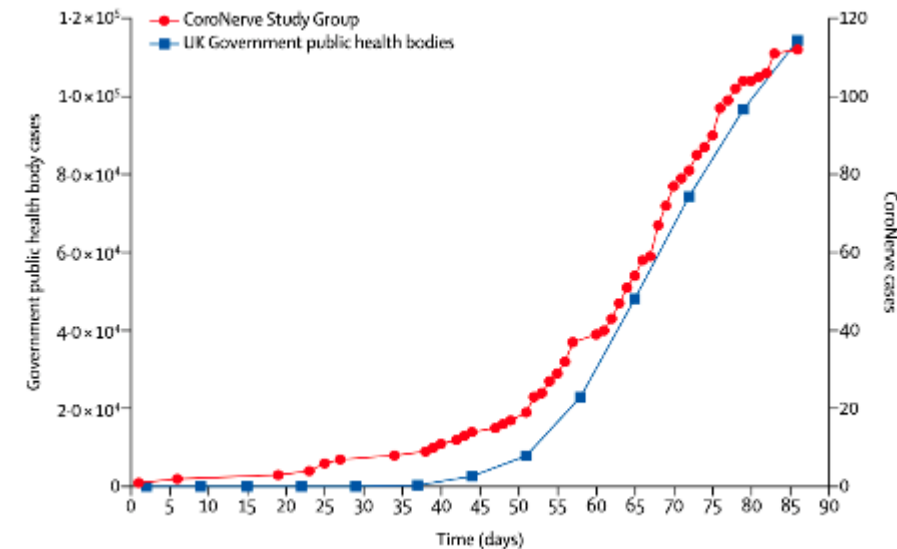
- **Cerebrovascular event** = 77 cases
 - Ischemic stroke / intracerebral hemorrhage
- **Altered mental status** = 39 cases
 - Encephalopathy /encephalitis / primary psychiatric diagnoses / ...
- **Peripheral neurology** = 6 cases
- **Other neurological disorders** = 3 cases

Acute alteration in mental status were overrepresented in young patients

→ Cerebrovascular events in COVID-19 → vasculopathy

→ Viral neurotropism? Host immune responses? Genetic factors?

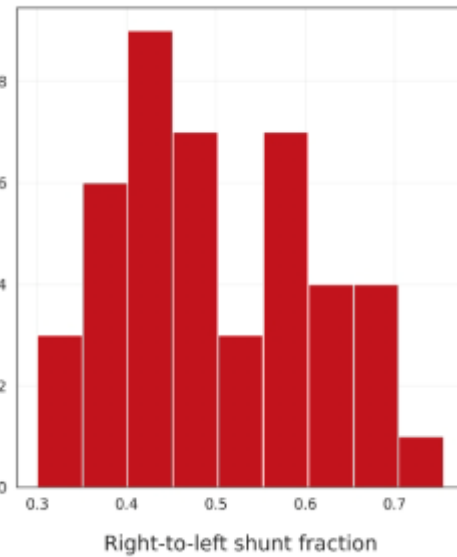
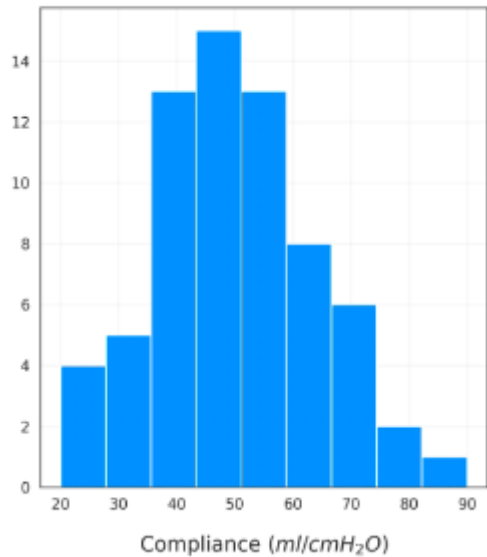
Temporal distribution for cases notified to the CoroNerve Study group



Age distribution of patients – case definitions for cerebrovascular and neuropsychiatric events

ARDS & COVID-19

- Atypical form of ARDS
- Dissociation in more than 50%:
 - Well preserved lung mechanics
 - Severity of hypoxemia



Type «L»: Low elastance

- Gas volume nearly normal
 - **Vt 7-8 ml/kg** → **DV<14cmH₂O**
- Recruitability is low
 - **PEP<12cmH₂O**
- Loss of hypoxic pulmonary vasoconstriction
- Ventilation/perfusion mismatch → hypoxemia
- Low lung weight → ground glass densities



Type «H»: High elastance (10 – 30%)

Evolution of the COVID-19 injury attributable to P-SILI

- Increase oedema → decrease gas volume
 - **Vt = 6ml/kg** → **DV<14cmH₂O**
- Recruitability is high
 - **PEP>12cmH₂O** (carefully)
- High lung weight → bilateral condensations
 - **Prone position**

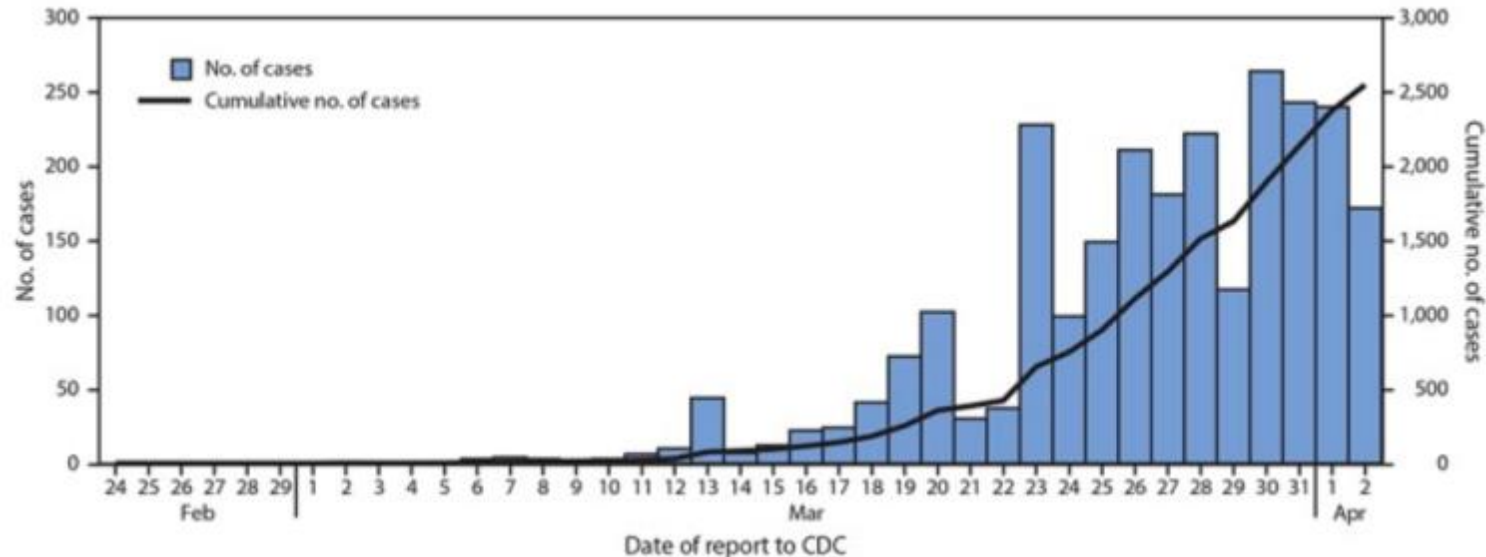
CT scan

A: spontaneous breathing

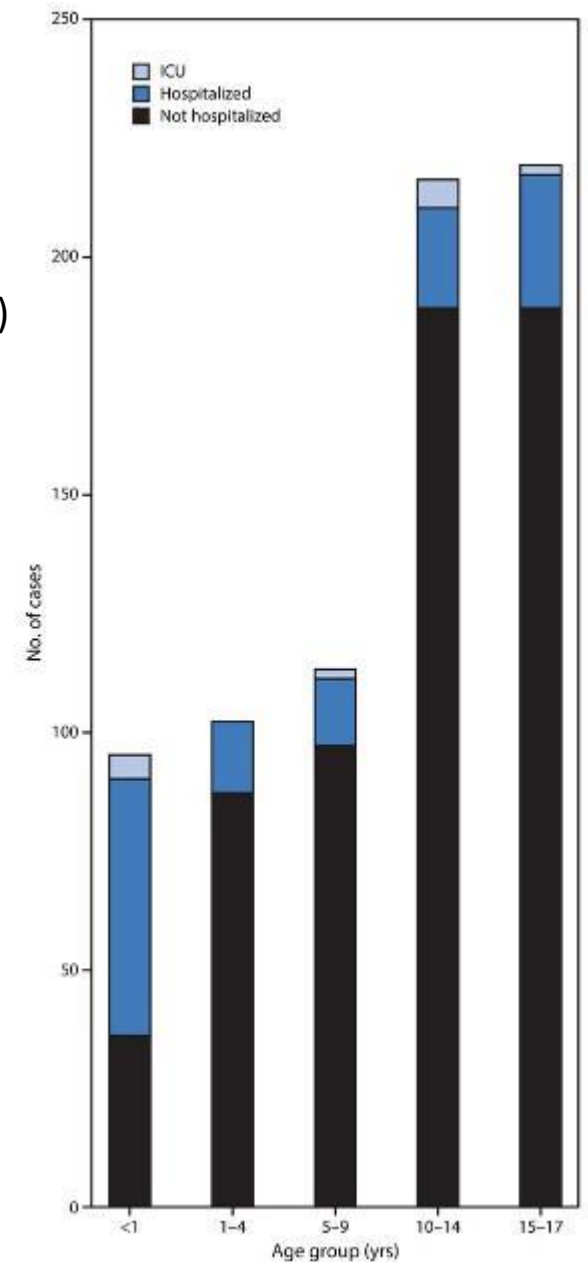
B: mechanical ventilation

2549 children in USA

- Age (median): 11 years [0 – 17]
- Male: 57 %
- Exposure to a COVID-19 patients: 91% (household / community)
- **Symptoms** (on 291 cases)
 - Fever: 56%
 - Cough: 54%
 - Dyspnea: 13%
 - Diarrhea: 13%
 - Nausea/vomiting: 11%
 - Abdominal pain: 5,8%
 - ...
- **Outcomes** (on 745 cases)
 - Hospitalized: 147
 - ICU admission: 15
 - **Case fatality rate: 0,1%**



Children aged <18 years, by date reported to CDC



Pediatric inflammatory multisystem syndrome

Observation of a large number of children hospitalized for cardiogenic shock potentially associated with SARS-CoV-2

- Retrospective cohort – 2 countries (France & Switzerland) – 14 centers
- 35 children - Age (median): 10 years [2 – 16] – 51% were male
- 88% were positive for SARS-CoV-2 (nasopharyngeal swabs or serology)

Evolution

- 71% had total recovery left ventricular ejection fraction at day 7
- Time to full recovery = 2 days [2 – 5]

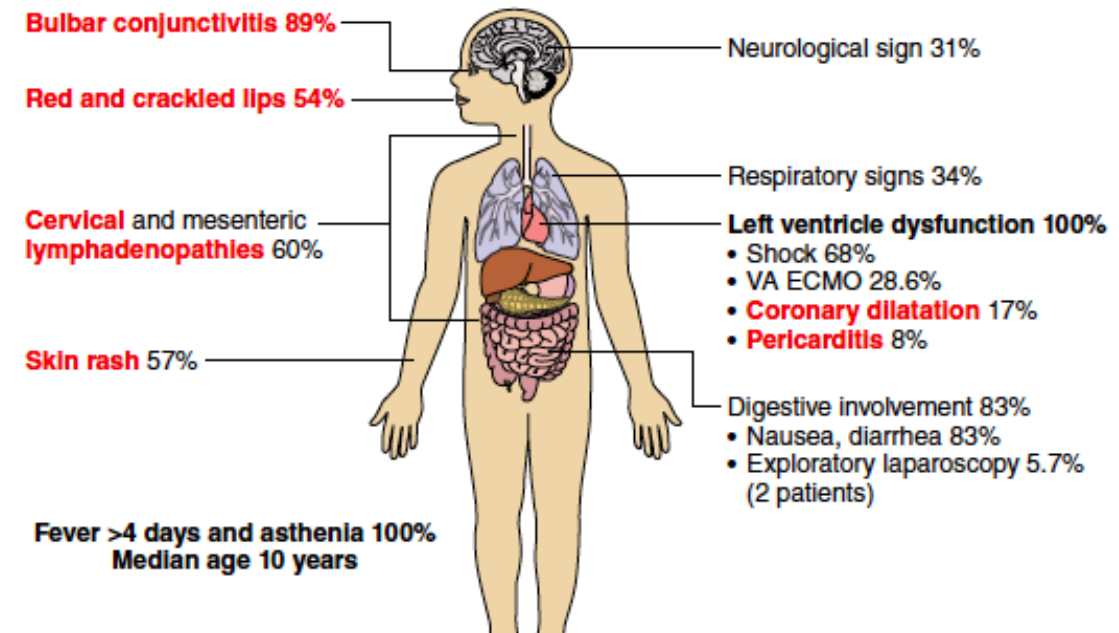
Treatment (no recommendation for the moment)

- 62% had invasive respiratory support
- 28% needed VA-ECMO

New disease related to SARS-CoV-2? No precise arguments
Shares some similarities with KD

→ Understanding the immune mechanisms of this disease is a priority

SARS-COV-2 related multisystem inflammation



Differences with Kawasaki disease

- Older (median age: 8 to 10y)
- Incomplete forms of KD
- Limited number of coronary artery dilatation

Pediatric inflammatory multisystem syndrome

Cohort of patients with KD in Paris region associated with SARS-CoV-2
(→ 16 patients)

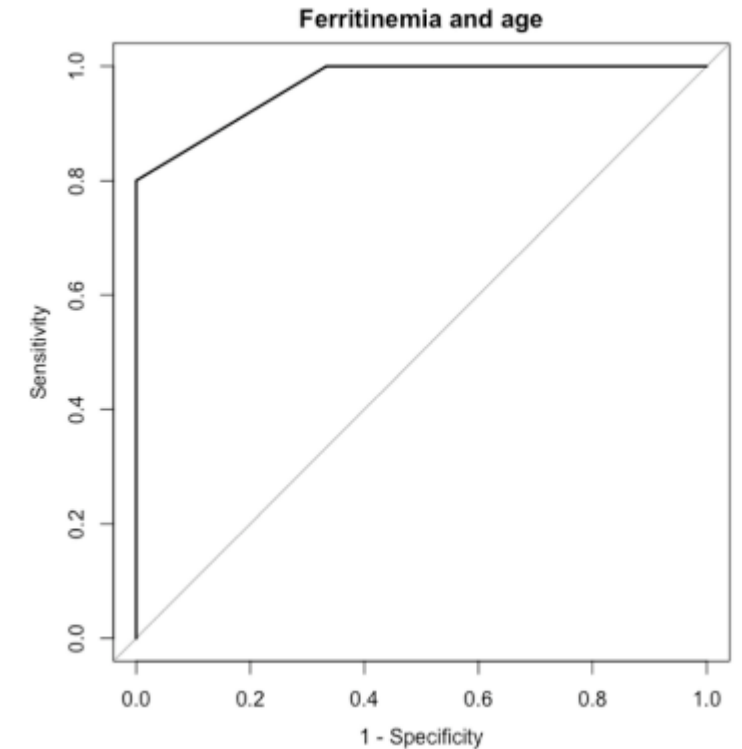
Compared with a historical cohort of «classical KD» (→ 220 patients)

Cohort of Kawa-COVID-19

- Median age = 10 y IQR [4,7 – 12,5]
- Median time from the onset of KD to hospitalization was 5 days
- RT PCR all site positive: 69% (11 cases)
- Cardiac ultrasound was abnormal in 11 patients
- No death – all are in remission

Kawa-COVID-19 versus historical cohort

- Older 10 vs 2 years ($p < 0,0001$)
- Lower platelet count ($p < 0,0001$)
- Lower lymphocyte counts ($p < 0,0001$)
- Higher frequency of cardiac involvement: myocarditis & pericarditis



ROC curve of the severity score

Factor prognostic for the development of severe disease

- **Age > 5 years**
- **Ferritinaemia >1400 µg/L**

CLINICAL (October 12th 2020)

1. What is the mechanism of action of SARS-CoV-2? Cell immunity?

- Uses ACE2 receptor to enter the cell and can produce a cytokine storm
- Activation of innate and adaptive immune pathways
- Induces long lasting T cell immunity against the structural N protein
- Recurrent anti-SARS-CoV-2 RBD antibodies with potent neutralizing activity can be found in all individuals
- Auto-Abs against type I IFNs are a cause of severe SARS-CoV-2 infection

2. What is the clinical presentation of COVID-19 in adults and children?

- Most persons are asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic
- Independent risk factors of mortality: age – obesity – chronic disease
- Children are less represented than adults and have less severe or critical forms of the disease

3. Is there multiple-organ damage?

- Predominantly lung damage → prognostic of the disease
- Several cases of heart & kidney damage

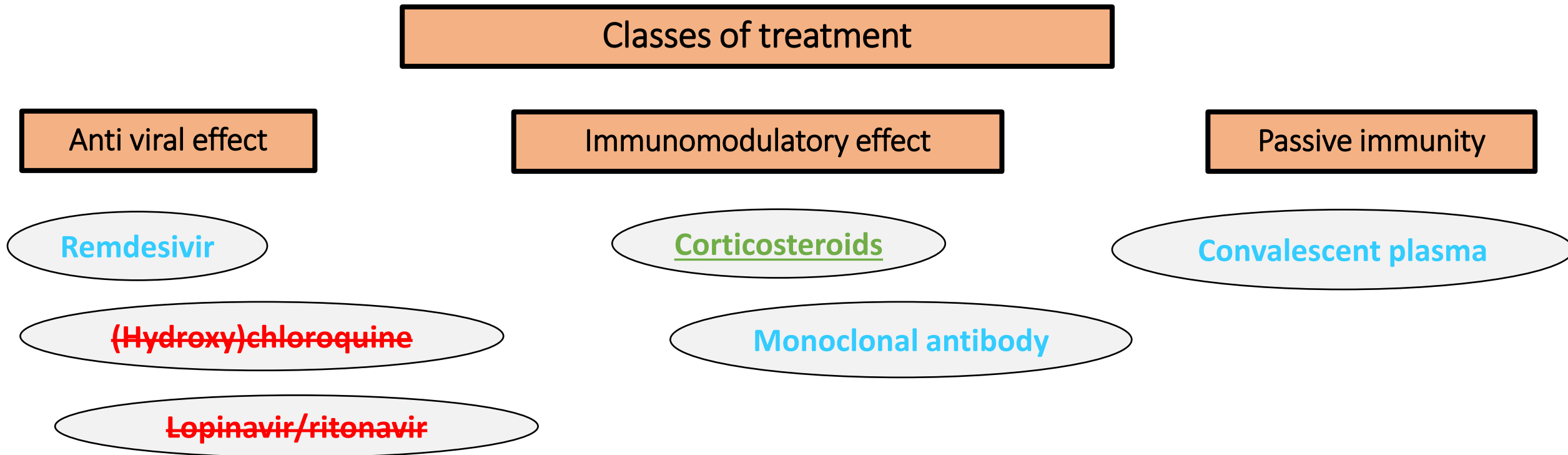
THERAPEUTIC

Questions:

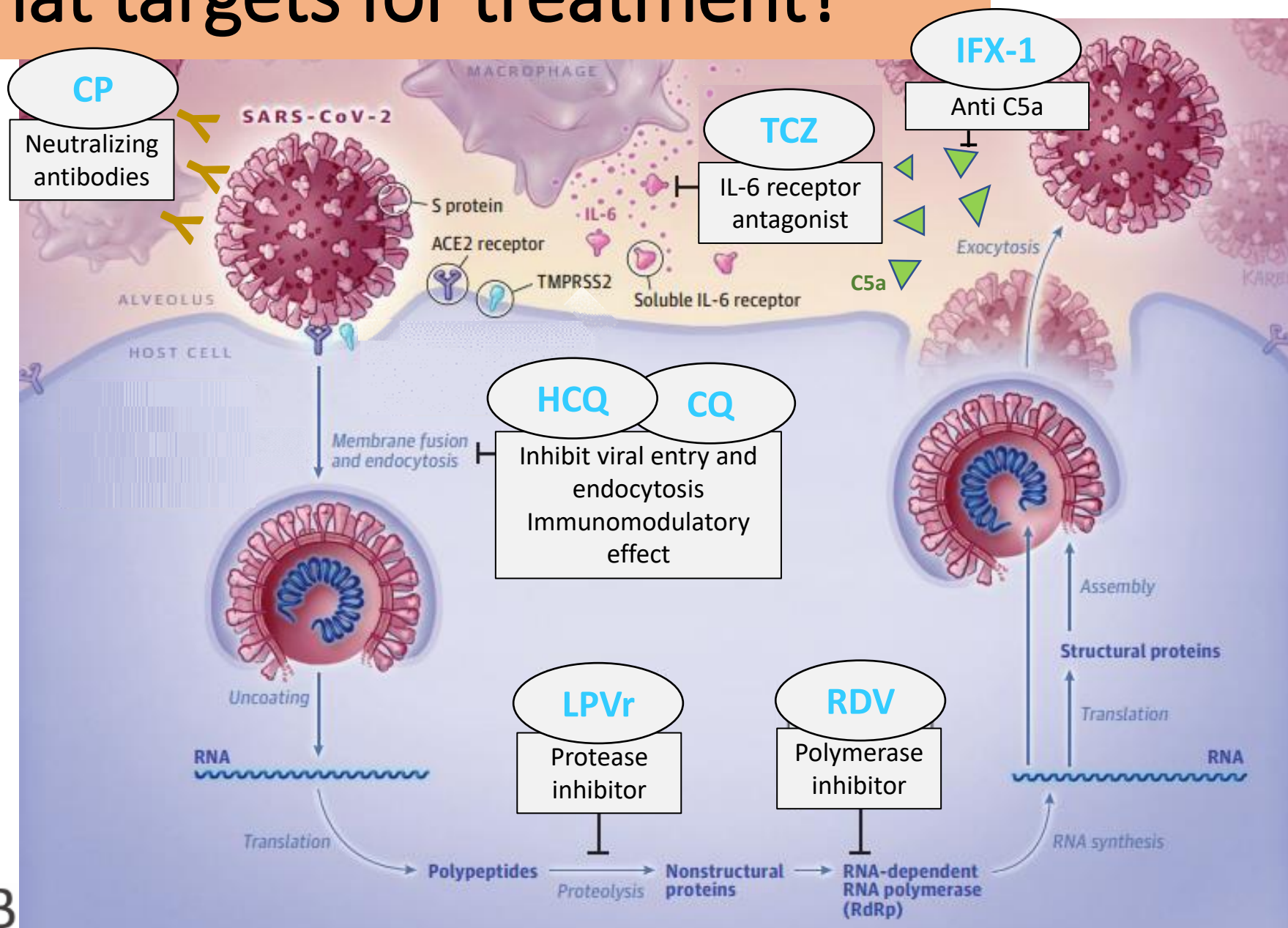
- What drug showed clinical efficacy?
- What drugs did not show proven benefits?
- What are the types of vaccines in clinical evaluation?

COVID-19 Treatment

- **Dexamethasone** is the first drug to show life-saving efficacy in patients infected with COVID-19
- More data from clinical trials are needed



What targets for treatment?



- CT: corticosteroids
- CP: convalescent plasma
- CQ: chloroquine
- HCQ: hydroxychloroquine
- IFX-1: vilobelimab
- LPVr: lopinavir/ritonavir
- RDV: remdesivir
- TCZ: tocilizumab

Anti viral effect

Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ)

1 st Author	Design	Groups	Participants	Primary outcome	Main results (Primary outcome)
Boulware	Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled	HCQ vs placebo (Post exposure prophylaxis, Not Hospitalized)	N= 821 Exposed to a known COVID-19 individual	Incidence of either laboratory confirmed COVID-19 or illness compatible with COVID-19 within 14 days	HCQ group: 49/414 (11,8%) vs. placebo group: 58/407 (14,3%); p=0,35
Geleris	Observational, not randomized	HCQ vs. no HCQ (Hospitalized)	N= 1376 Moderate-to-severe respiratory illness	Time from study baseline to intubation or death	HR: 1.04 CI _{95%} [0,82-1,32]
Tang	Randomized, controlled, multicenter, open label	HCQ + SoC vs. SoC (Hospitalized)	N= 150 Mild to moderate or severe disease	D28 negative conversion of SARS-CoV-2	HCQ + SoC: 85,4%, IC _{95%} [73,8% - 93,8%] vs. SoC: 81,3%, IC _{95%} [71,2%-89,6%]

No virological data on some studies.

AZ: azithromycin – ED: emergency department – HCW: health care worker – HCQ: hydroxychloroquine

Anti viral effect

Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ)

1 st Author	Design	Groups	Participants	Primary outcome	Main results (Primary outcome)
Abella	Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled	HCQ vs placebo (HCWs, pre-exposure prophylaxis)	N=130 Hospital HCW (ED and COVID-19 units)	Incidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection	Early termination of the study HCQ group: 4/64 (6,3%) vs. placebo group: 4/61 (6,6%); $p > 0,99$
Cavalcanti	Multicenter, randomized, open-label, controlled	HCQ + AZ vs. SoC, HCQ vs. SoC, HCQ + AZ vs. HCQ (Hospitalized)	N= 667 No supplemental O ₂ or a maximum of 4 L/min supplemental	D15 clinical status (seven-level ordinal scale)	HCQ + AZ vs. control: OR: 0,99 IC _{95%} [0,57-1,73]; HCQ vs. control: OR: 1,21 IC _{95%} [0,69-2,11]; HCQ + AZ vs. HCQ: OR: 0,82 IC _{95%} [0,47-1,43]
RECOVERY	Randomized, controlled, open-label	HCQ vs. usual care (Hospitalized)	N= 4717 Not specified	D28 mortality	HCQ group: 421/1561 (27.0%) vs. usual care group: 790/3155 (25.0%) RR: 1.09; IC _{95%} [0,97-1,23]; $p=0,15$

No virological data on some studies.

Anti viral effect

Lopinavir/ritonavir (LPVr)

1 st Author	Design	Groups	Participants	Primary outcome	Main results (Primary outcome)
Schoergenhofer	Experimental	One group (non ICU Hospitalized)	N= 8 Not specified	LPVr plasma concentration	LPV plasma concentration: approximately 2-fold higher than HIV patients receiving the same dose (7.1 µg/mL) 60 to 120-fold higher concentrations are required to reach the assumed LPV EC50 at trough levels
Cao	Randomized, controlled, open-label	LPVr vs. SoC (Hospitalized)	N= 199 SaO ₂ ≤ 94% or PaO ₂ /FiO ₂ < 300 mm Hg	Time to clinical improvement	LPVr group not associated with a difference in time to clinical improvement HR: 1,31 CI _{95%} [0,95-1,80]
Zhang	Systematic review and meta-analysis	LPVr vs. control specified (Hospitalized)	N= 4 023 Not specified (meta-analysis)	Mortality rate and ARDS rate	ARDS: LPVr group 15,6% vs. control group 24,2%; p=0,49 Mortality rate: LPVr group 6,2% vs control group 5,5%; p=0,93
RECOVERY	Randomized, controlled, open-label	LPVr + SoC vs. SoC (Hospitalized)	N=5 040 Not specified	28-day all-cause mortality	LPVr + SoC group: 364/1616 (23%) vs. SoC group 767/3424 (22%); RR: 1,03 CI _{95%} [0,91-1,17], p=0,60

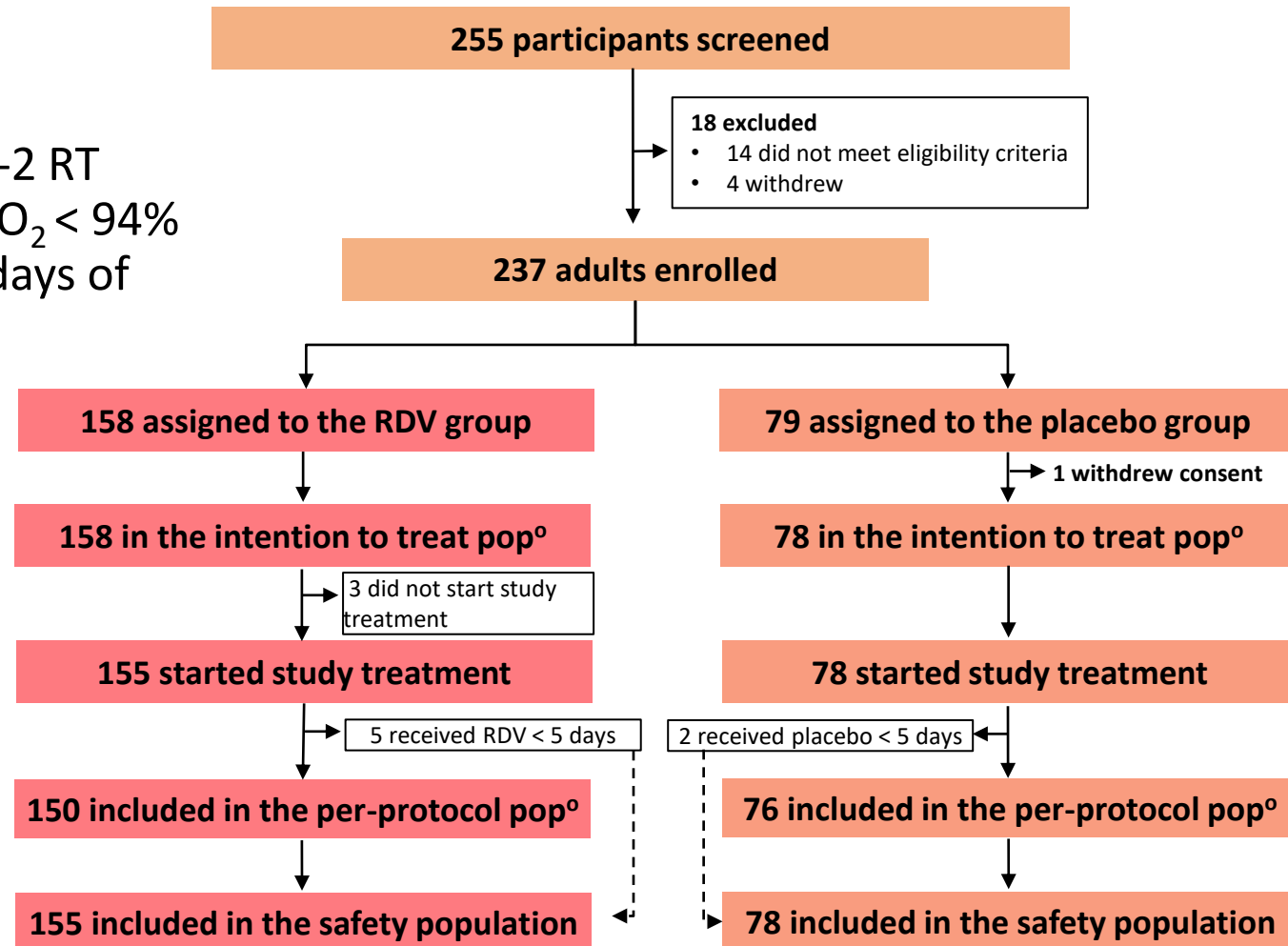
LPVr : Lopinavir/ritonavir – SoC: Standard of Care

No virological data on some studies.

Anti viral effect

Remdesivir (RDV) - 1

- Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicenter, academic study, China
- **Inclusion criteria:** age \geq 18yo, positive SARS-CoV-2 RT PCR, pneumonia confirmed by chest Imaging, $SpO_2 < 94\%$ (room air) or $PaO_2/FiO_2 \leq 300$ mmHg, within 12 days of symptom onset
- **Exclusion criteria:** pregnant women, renal impairment, hepatic cirrhosis
- **Primary outcome:** time to clinical improvement within 28 days after randomization
- **Secondary outcome :** D28 mortality, SARS-CoV-2 viral load
- 237 eligible patients, 158 received **RDV**, 79 **placebo** (2:1)



Anti viral effect

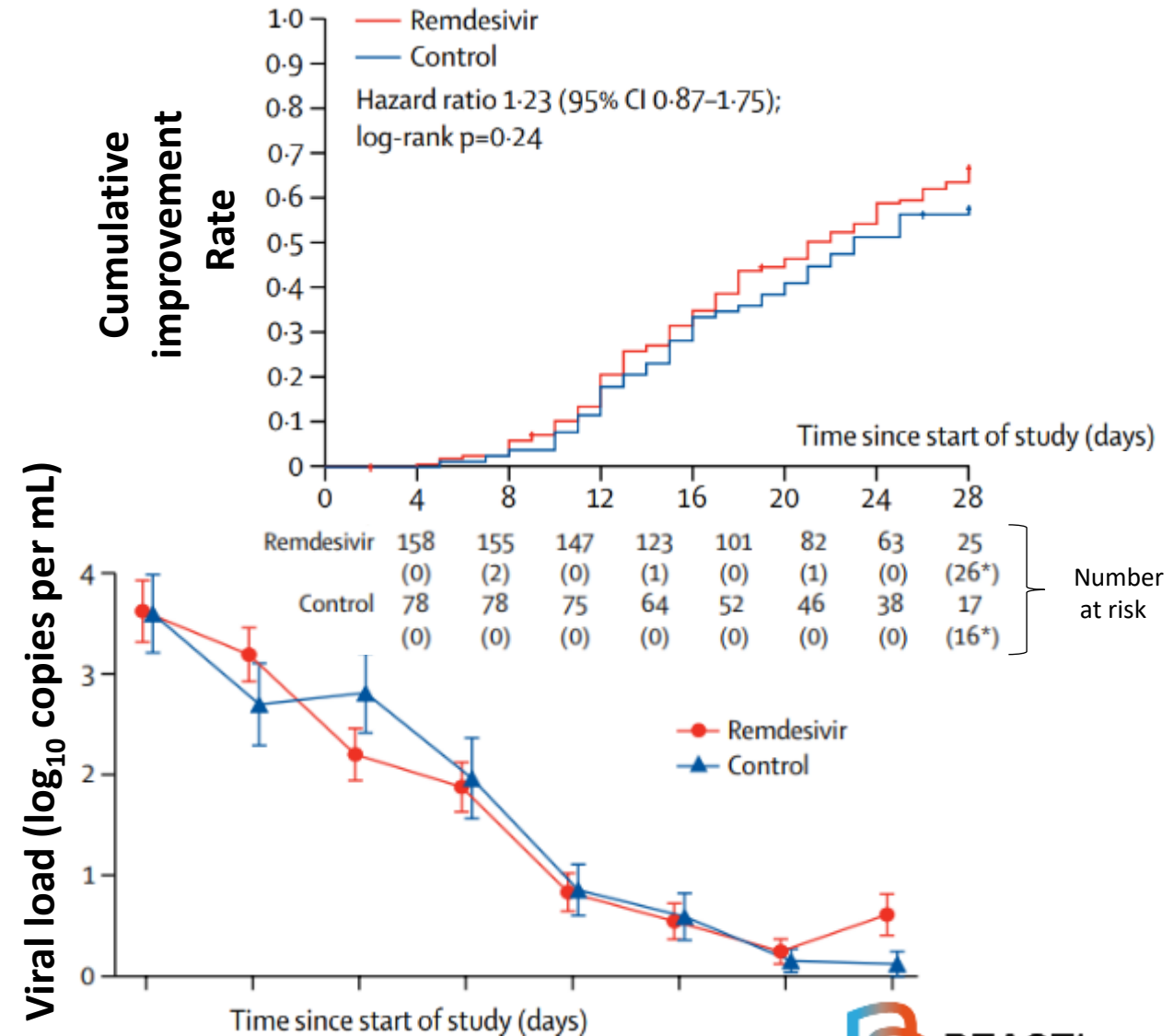
Remdesivir (RDV) - 1

Characteristics	RDV (N=158)	Placebo(N=78)
Age, median (IQR) – yr	66 (57-73)	64 (53-70)
Male sex – no (%)	89 (56)	51 (65)
Coexisting conditions		
Diabetes – no (%)	40 (25)	16 (21)
Hypertension – no (%)	72 (46)	30 (38)
Coronary heart disease – no (%)	15 (9)	2 (3)
Vital sign		
Respiratory rate > 24/min – no (%)	36 (23)	11 (14)

Anti viral effect

Remdesivir (RDV) - 1

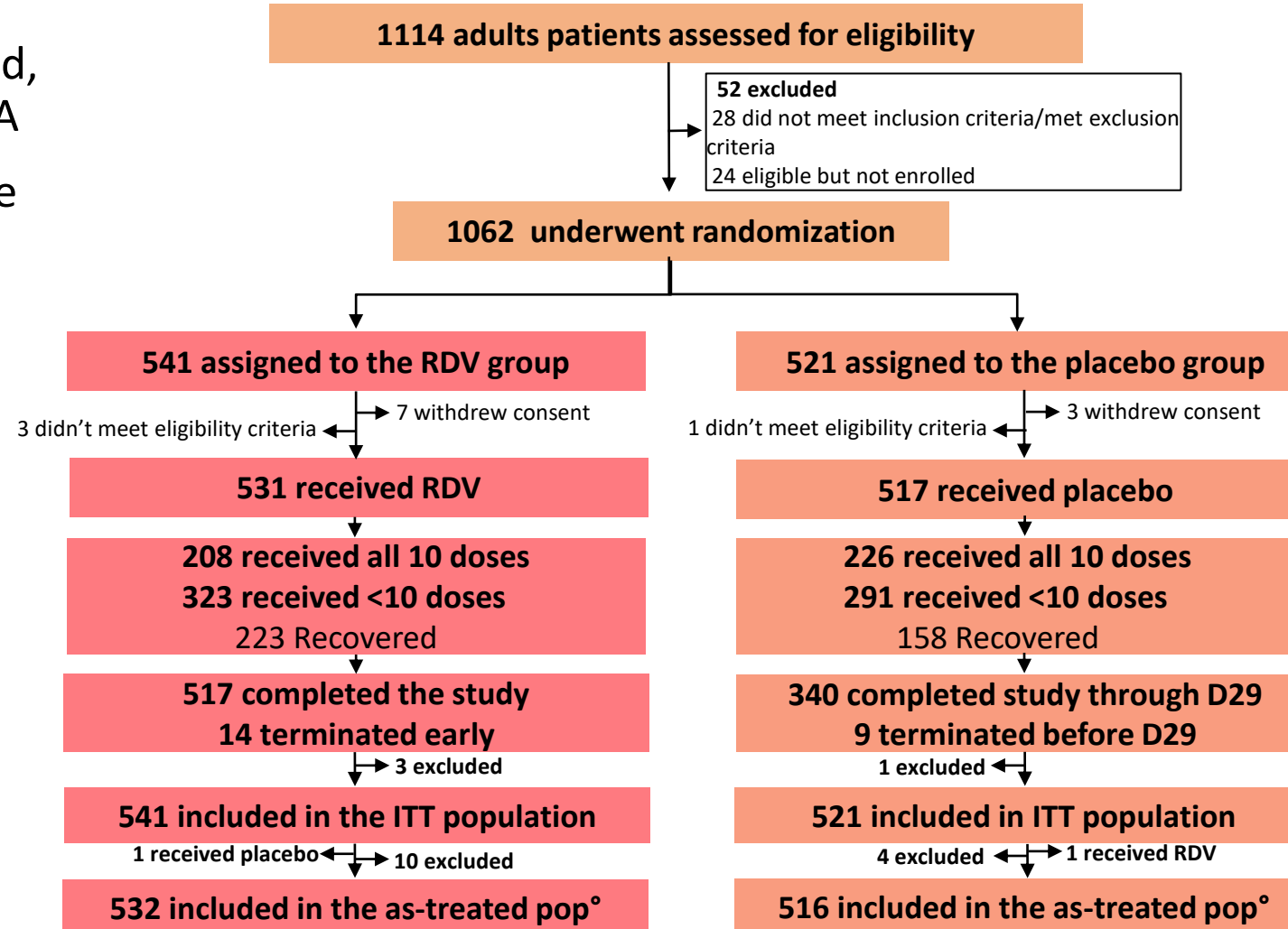
- **Time to clinical improvement:** median 21,0 days [IQR 13,0–28,0] RDV group vs. 23,0 days [15,0–28,0] placebo group; no significant difference HR 1,23 IC_{95%}[0,87-1,75]
- **D28 mortality:** 22/158 (14%) RDV group vs. 10/78 (13%) placebo group; **similar**
- **Viral load:** decreased over time similarly in both groups
- Adverse events: 102 (66%) RDV group vs. 50 (64%) placebo group
- **Limits:** target enrolment not reached; insufficient power to detect assumed differences in clinical outcomes, late treatment initiation (within 12 days of symptom onset), no virological data



Anti viral effect

Remdesivir (RDV) - 2

- Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicenter (73 centers), academic study, USA
- **Inclusion criteria:** SARS-CoV-2 RT PCR positive patients, radiographic infiltrates, SpO₂ < 94% (room air) or requiring supplemental oxygen, mechanical ventilation, or ECMO
- **Exclusion criteria:** pregnant women, allergy to study product
- **Primary outcome:** time to recovery
- 1062 patients underwent randomization; 541 **RDV** group, 521 **placebo** group (1:1)



Anti viral effect

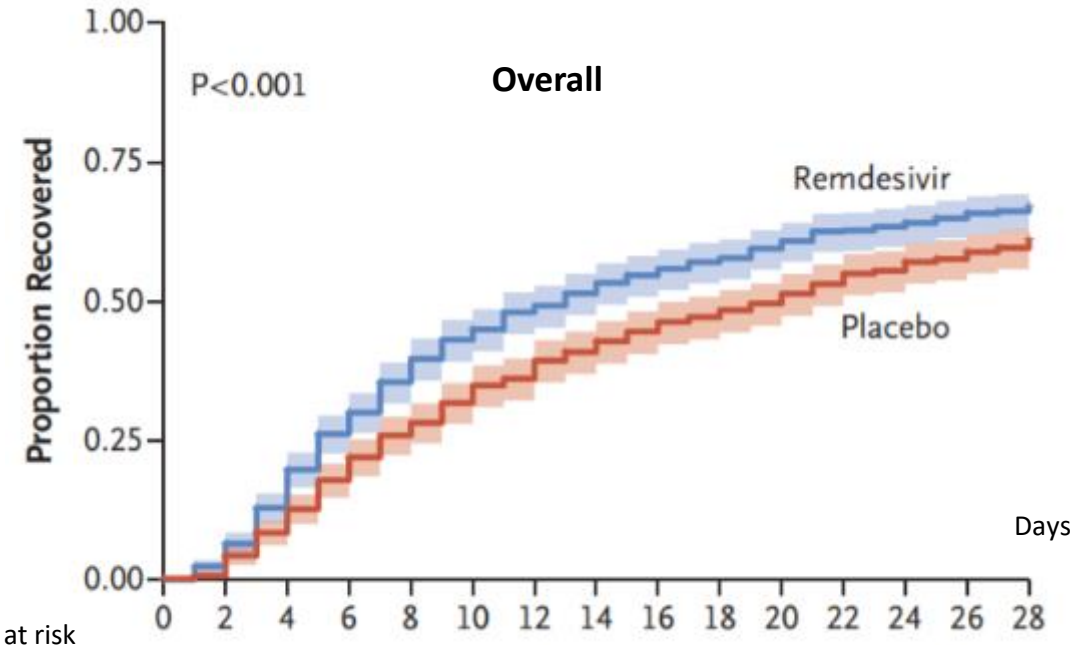
Remdesivir (RDV) - 2

Characteristics	All (N=1062)	RDV (N=541)	Placebo (N=521)
Age, mean (SD) – yo	58,9 (15)	58,6 (14,6)	59,2 (15,4)
Male sex – no (%)	684 (64,4)	352 (65,1)	332 (63,6)
Co existing conditions			
Type 2 Diabetes – no (%)	322/1051 (30,6)	164/532 (30,8)	158/519 (30,4)
Hypertension – no (%)	533/1051 (50,7)	269/532 (50,6)	264/519 (50,9)
Obesity – no (%)	476/1049 (45,4)	242/531 (45,6)	234/518 (45,2)
Score on ordinal scale			
4. Hospitalized, not requiring supplemental O ₂ , requiring ongoing medical care – no (%)	133 (13,0)	75 (13,9)	63 (12,1)
5. Hospitalized, requiring supplemental O ₂ – no (%)	435 (41,0)	232 (41)	203 (39,0)
6. Hospitalized, receiving noninvasive ventilation or high flow O ₂ device – no (%)	193 (18,2)	95 (17,6)	98 (18,8)
7. Hospitalized, receiving invasive mechanical ventilation or ECMO – no (%)	285 (26,8)	131 (24,2)	154 (29,6)

Anti viral effect

Remdesivir (RDV) - 2

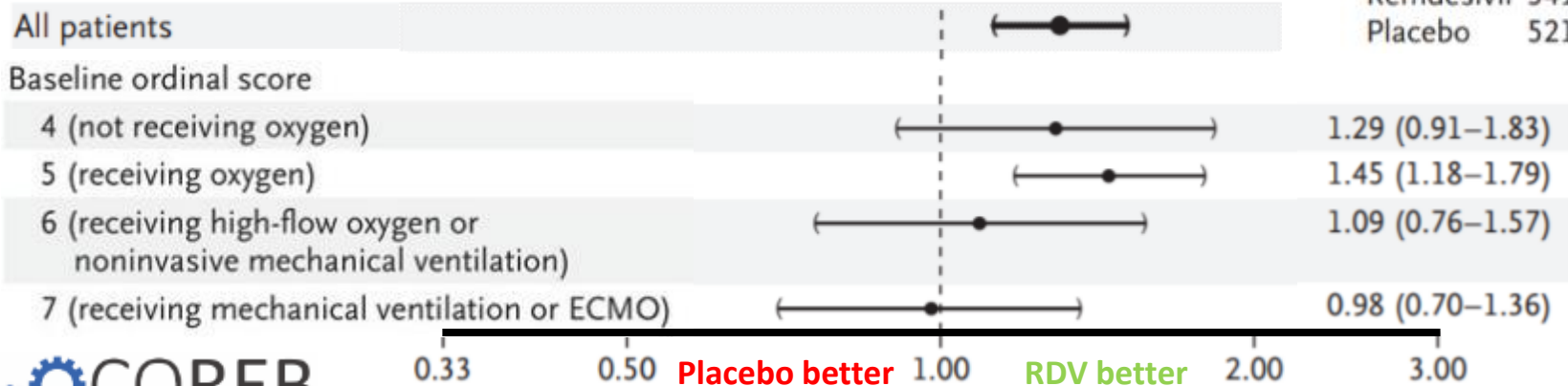
- **Time to recovery (median):** RDV group: 10 days vs. placebo group: 15 days; recovery rate ratio 1,29 CI_{95%}[1,12-1,49]
- **D29 mortality:** RDV group: 11,4% vs. placebo group: 15,2%; HR 0,73 CI_{95%}[0,52-1,03]
- **Adverse events:** RDV group: 131/532 (24,6%) vs. placebo group: 163/516 (31,6%)
- **Limits:** primary outcome changed during the study, uncompleted follow up, no virological data



Number at risk

Remdesivir	541	513	447	366	309	264	234	214	194	180	166	148	143	131	84
Placebo	521	511	463	408	360	326	301	272	249	234	220	200	186	169	105

1.29 (1.12-1.49)

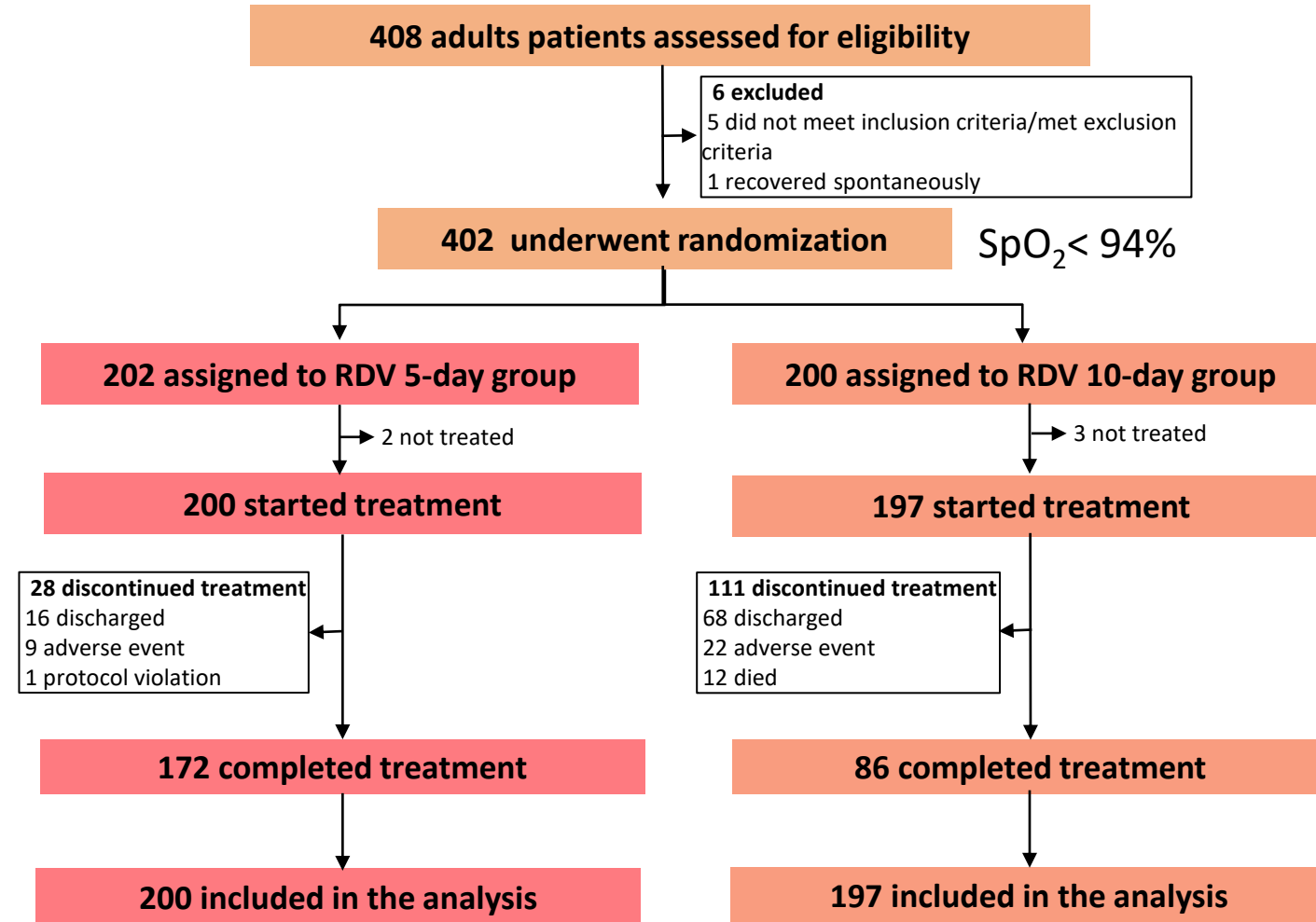


Recovery rate ratio CI_{95%}

Anti viral effect

Remdesivir (RDV) - 3

- Open labelled, randomized, placebo-controlled, multicenter (55 centers), academic study, USA, Europe, Asia
- **Inclusion criteria:** age > 12 yo, SARS-CoV-2 RT PCR positive patients, radiographic infiltrates, $SpO_2 < 94\%$ (room air) or requiring supplemental oxygen
- **Exclusion criteria:** mechanical ventilation, or ECMO, ALT or AST > 5 ULNR, creatine clearance < 50 mL/min/m²
- **Primary outcome:** status assessed on day 14 on a 7-point ordinal scale
- 402 patients underwent randomization; 200 **5-day course** RDV group, 197 **10-day course** RDV group (1:1)



Anti viral effect

Remdesivir (RDV) - 3

Characteristics	RDV 5 days (N=200)	RDV 10 days (N=197)
Age, median (IQR) – yo	61 (50-69)	62 (50-71)
Male sex – no (%)	120 (60)	133 (68)
Co existing conditions		
Type 2 Diabetes – no (%)	47 (24)	42 (22)
Hypertension – no (%)	100 (50)	98 (50)
BMI, median (IQR) – kg/m ²	29 (25-34)	29 (25-33)
Score on ordinal scale		
4. Hospitalized, not requiring O ₂ – no (%)	34 (17)	21 (11)
5. Hospitalized, requiring O ₂ – no (%)	113 (56)	107 (54)
6. Hospitalized, receiving noninvasive ventilation or high flow O ₂ device – no (%)	49 (24)	60 (30)
7. Hospitalized, receiving invasive mechanical ventilation or ECMO – no (%)	4 (2)	9 (5)

Anti viral effect

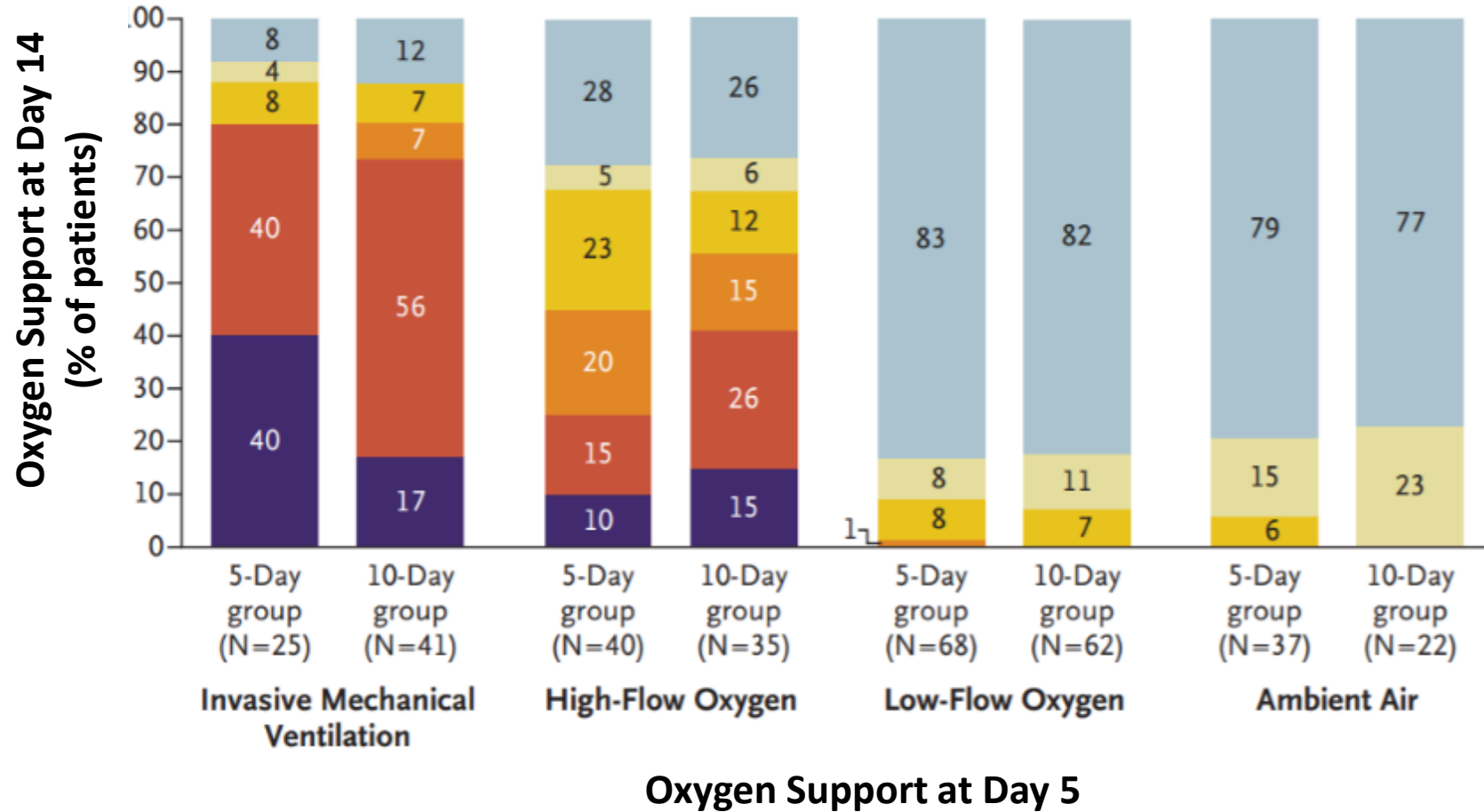
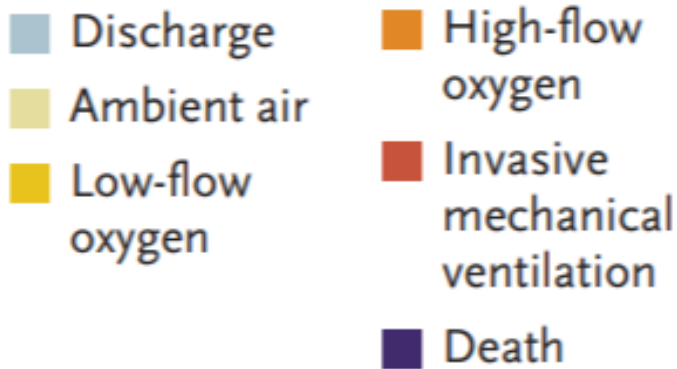
Remdesivir (RDV) - 3

Outcomes	5-days (N=200)	10-days (N=197)	Baseline-Adjusted Difference _{95% CI}
Clinical status at day 14 on the 7-point ordinal scale - no (%)			
Hospitalized, receiving invasive mechanical ventilation or ECMO	16 (8)	33 (17)	-
Hospitalized, receiving noninvasive ventilation or high flow O ₂ device	9 (4)	10 (5)	-
Hospitalized, requiring O ₂	19 (10)	14 (7)	-
Hospitalized, not requiring O ₂	9 (4)	3 (2)	-
Not Hospitalized	120 (60)	103 (52)	-
Time to clinical improvement (median day of 50% cumulative incidence)	10	11	0.79 (0,61-1,01)
Recovery - no (%)			
Day 7	71 (36)	51 (26)	-6.0% (-14,8 to 2,7)
Day 14	129 (64)	106 (54)	-6.3% (-15,4 to 2,8)

Anti viral effect

Remdesivir (RDV) - 3

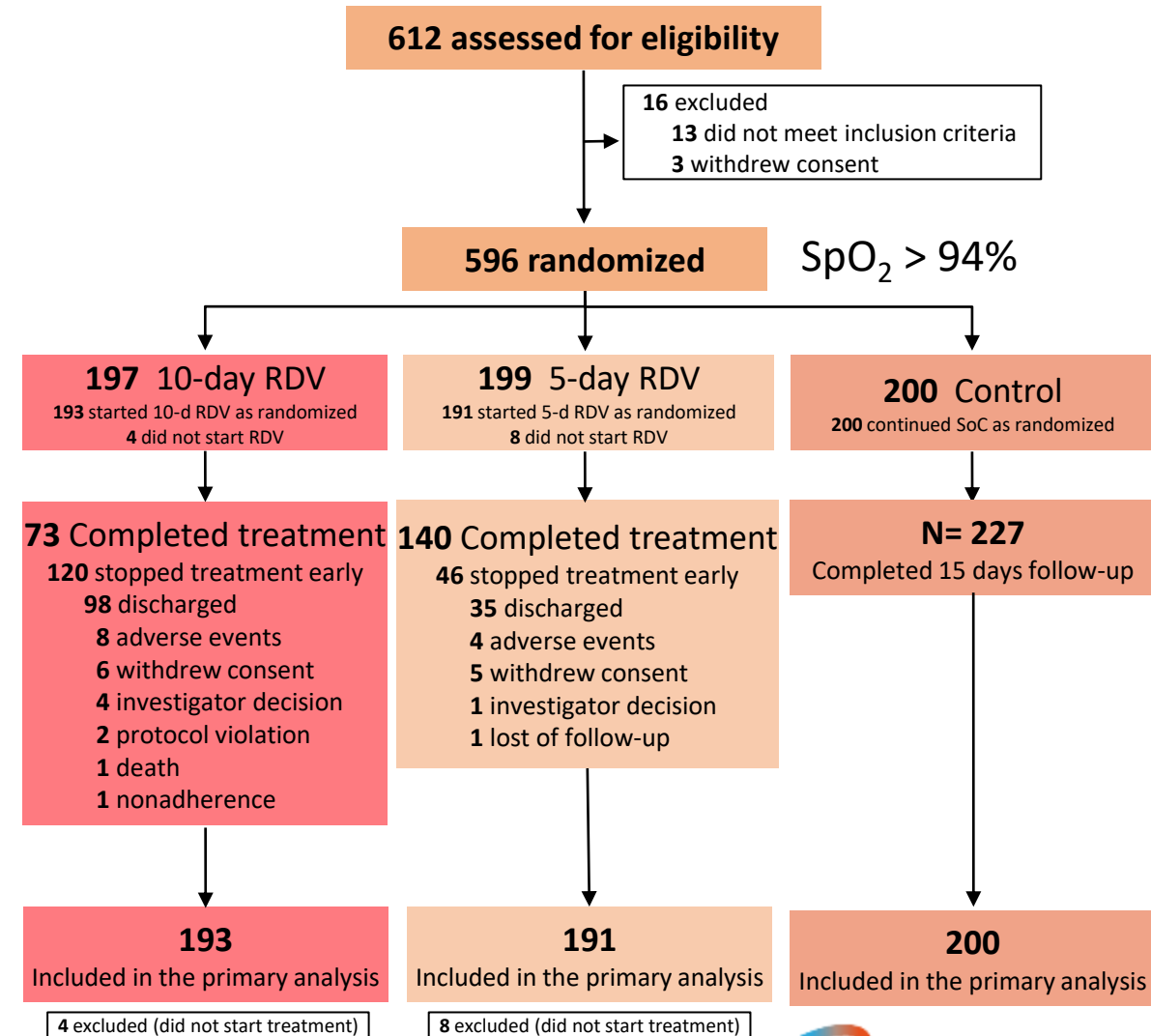
- **D14 Clinical status:** No significant difference in efficacy between 5-day and 10-day courses of remdesivir
- **Limits:** lack of a randomized placebo control group; open-label design; no virological data



Anti viral effect

Remdesivir (RDV) - 4

- Randomized, open-label, placebo-controlled, multicenter (105 centers), academic study, USA, Europe, Asia
- **Inclusion criteria:** hospitalized patients, SARS-CoV-2 RT PCR positive patients, radiographic infiltrates, **SpO₂ > 94%** (room air)
- **Exclusion criteria:** mechanical ventilation, or ECMO, ALT or AST > 5 ULNR, creatine clearance < 50 mL/min/m²
- **Primary outcome:** clinical status assessed on the 7-point ordinal scale on study day 11
- 402 patients underwent randomization; 191 **5-day course** RDV group, 193 **10-day course** RDV group, 200 **control** group (1:1:1)



Anti viral effect

Remdesivir (RDV) - 4

Characteristics	5-days (N=191)	10-days (N=193)	SoC (N=200)
Age, median (IQR) – yo	58 (48-66)	56 (45-66)	57 (45-66)
Male sex – no (%)	114 (60)	118 (61)	125 (63)
Co existing conditions			
Diabetes – no (%)	71 (37)	85 (44)	76 (38)
Hypertension – no (%)	82 (43)	85 (44)	81 (41)
BMI, median (IQR) – kg/m ²	25 (24-30)	28 (25-32)	27 (24-31)
Day 1 clinical status on 7-point scale			
Hospitalized, not requiring O ₂ – no (%)	160 (84)	163 (84)	160 (80)
Hospitalized, requiring O ₂ – no (%)	29 (15)	23 (12)	36 (18)
Hospitalized, receiving noninvasive ventilation or high flow O ₂ device – no (%)	2 (1)	1 (1)	2 (1)

Anti viral effect

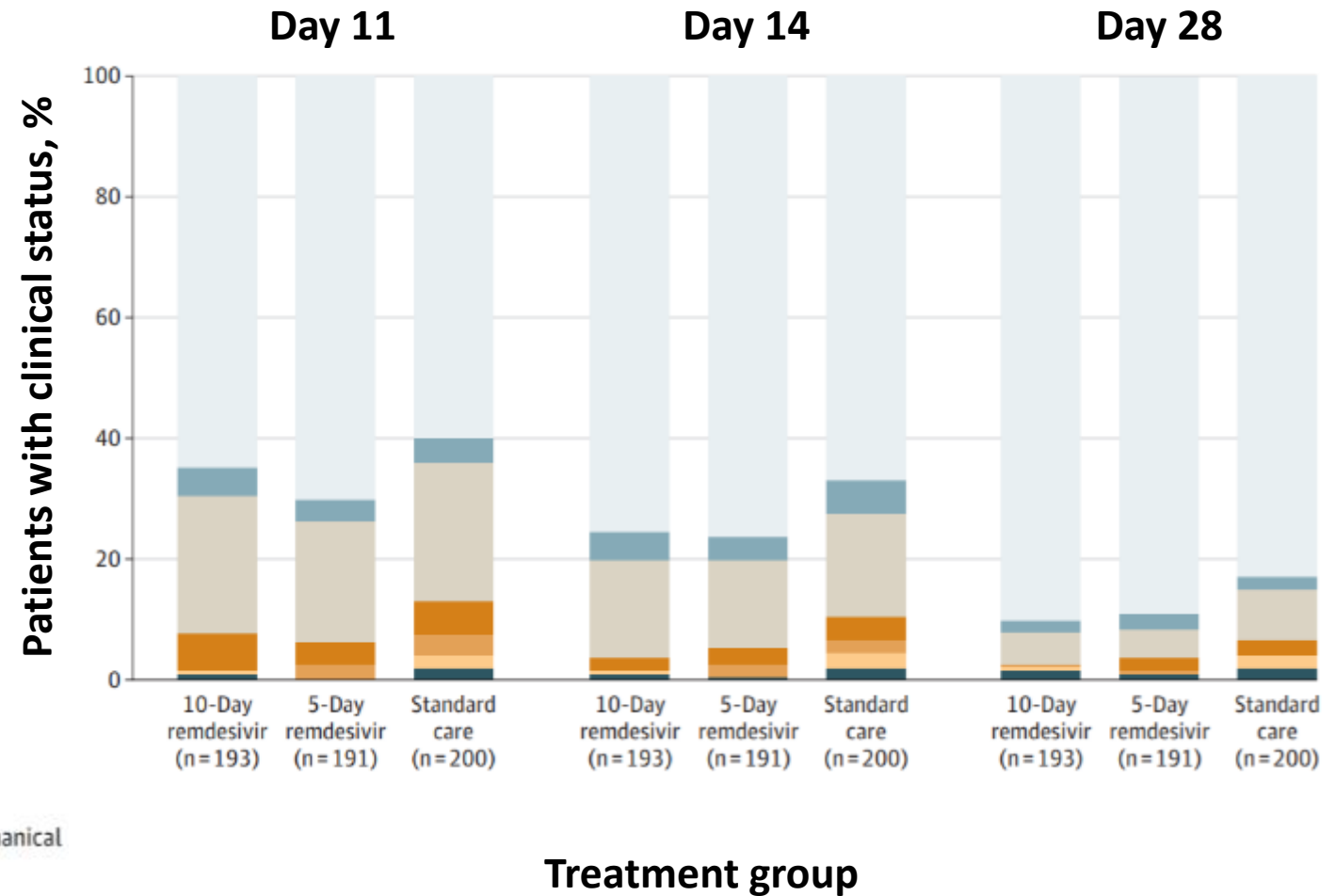
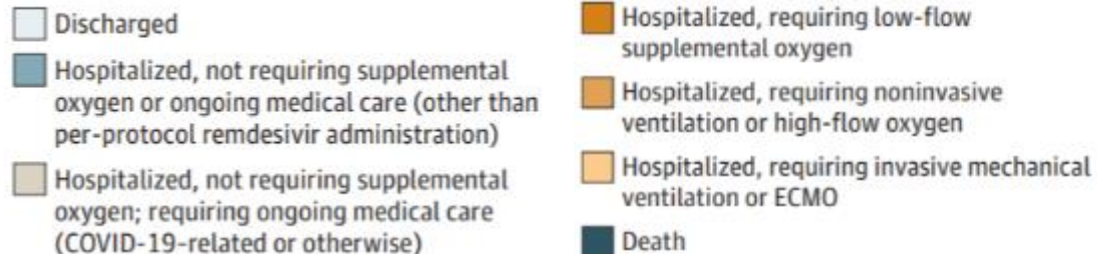
Remdesivir (RDV) - 4

Outcomes	5-days (N=191)	10-days (N=193)	SoC (N=200)
Day 1 clinical status on 7-point scale			
Not hospitalized – no (%)	134 (70)	125 (65)	120 (60)
Hospitalized, not requiring O ₂ – no (%)	38 (20)	44 (23)	46 (23)
Hospitalized, requiring O ₂ – no (%)	7 (4)	12 (6)	11 (6)
Hospitalized, receiving noninvasive ventilation or high flow O ₂ device – no (%)	5 (3)	0	7 (4)
Hospitalized, receiving invasive mechanical ventilation or ECMO – no (%)	0	1 (1)	4 (2)
Death – no (%)	0	2 (1)	4 (2)
Adverse events			
Any adverse event – no (%)	98 (51)	113 (59)	93 (47)
Any grade ≥ 3 adverse event – no (%)	20 (10)	24 (12)	24 (12)
Any serious adverse event – no (%)	9 (5)	10 (5)	18 (9)

Remdesivir (RDV) - 4

- **D11 clinical status:** in 5-day RDV group patients had higher odds of a better clinical status distribution compare to SoC (OR: 1,65 IC_{95%}[1,09-2,48]; p=0,02)
- **D11 clinical status:** in 10-day remdesivir and SoC group was not significantly different
- **Limits:** open-label design, discharge decision may have been influenced by the assigned duration of remdesivir therapy, no virological data

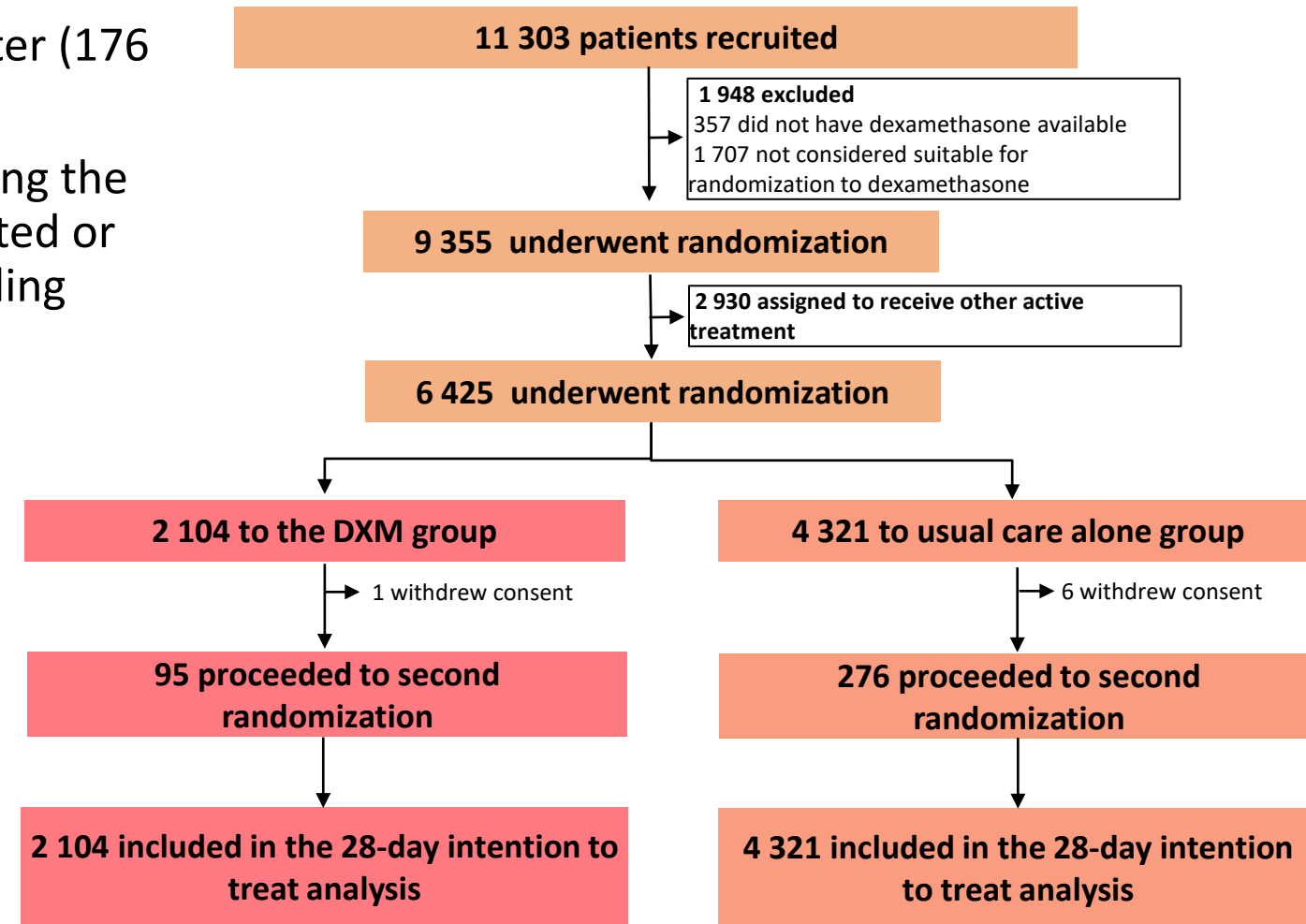
Clinical status



Immunomodulatory
effect

Corticosteroids (CT) - 1

- Randomized, controlled, open-label, multi center (176 hospitals), academic study, UK
- **Inclusion criteria** : age \geq 9yo (age changed during the study)), SARS-CoV-2 infection (clinically suspected or laboratory confirmed), pregnant or breast-feeding women were eligible
- **Primary outcome**: all-cause mortality within 28 days after randomization
- **Secondary outcome**: time until discharge from hospital, invasive mechanical ventilation (including ECMO) or death (among patients not receiving invasive mechanical ventilation at randomization)
- 6 425 participants; **4 321 usual care alone group, 2 104 DXM group** (2:1)



Immunomodulatory
effect

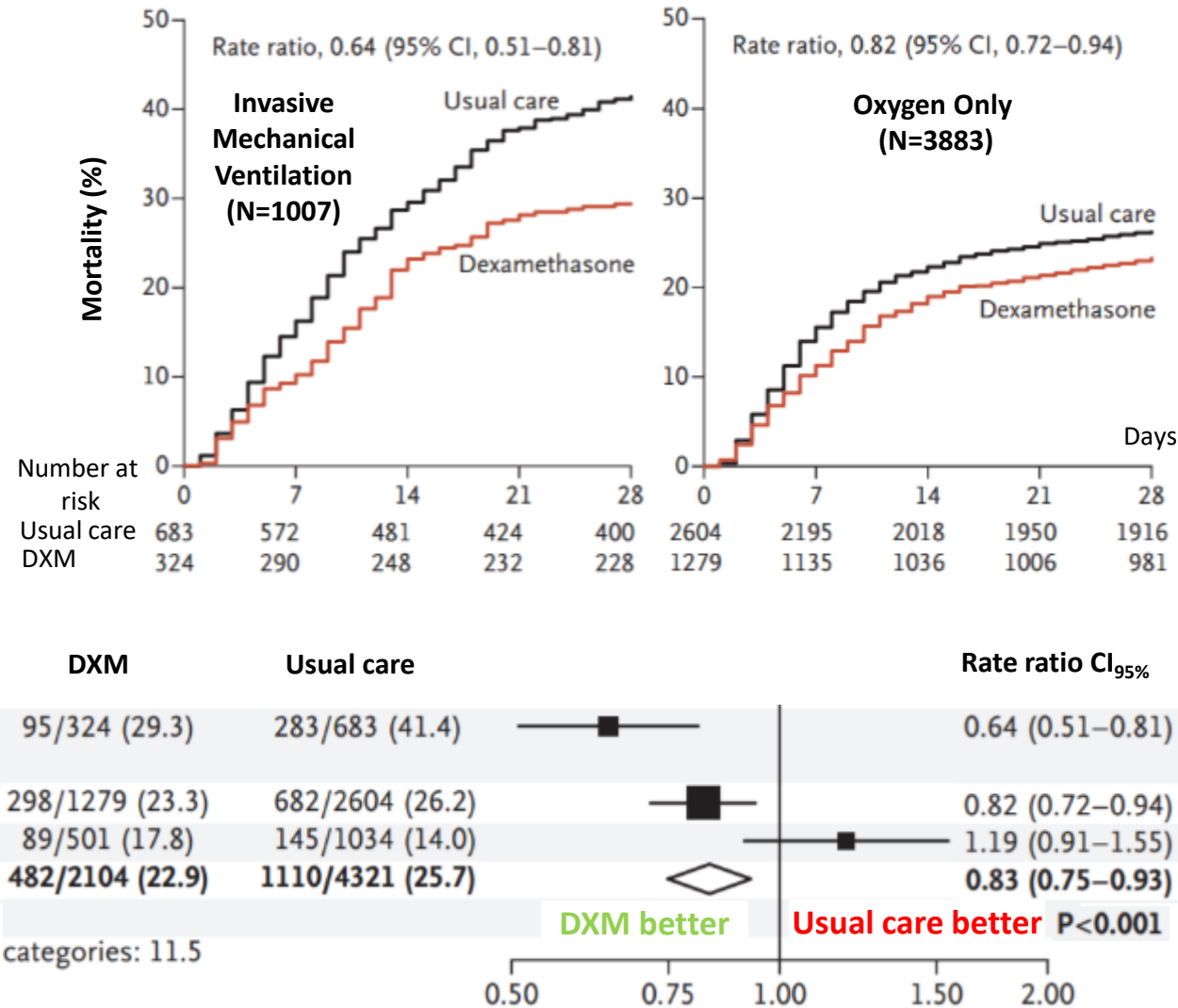
Corticosteroids (CT) - 1

Characteristics	Treatment assignment	
	DXM (N=2 104)	Usual care (N=4 321)
Age ≥ 70 yr – no (%)	963 (45)	1817 (42)
Female sex – no (%)	766 (36)	1572 (36)
Coexisting conditions		
Diabetes – no (%)	521 (25)	1025 (24)
Heart disease – no (%)	586 (49,1)	1171 (27)
Chronic lung disease – no (%)	415 (20)	931 (22)
SARS-CoV-2 test result		
Positive – no (%)	20 (18-22)	18 (18-20)
Respiratory support received		
No oxygen – no (%)	501 (24)	1034 (24)
Oxygen only – no (%)	1279 (61)	2604 (60)
Invasive mechanical ventilation – no (%)	324 (15)	683 (16)

Immunomodulatory effect

Corticosteroids (CT) - 1

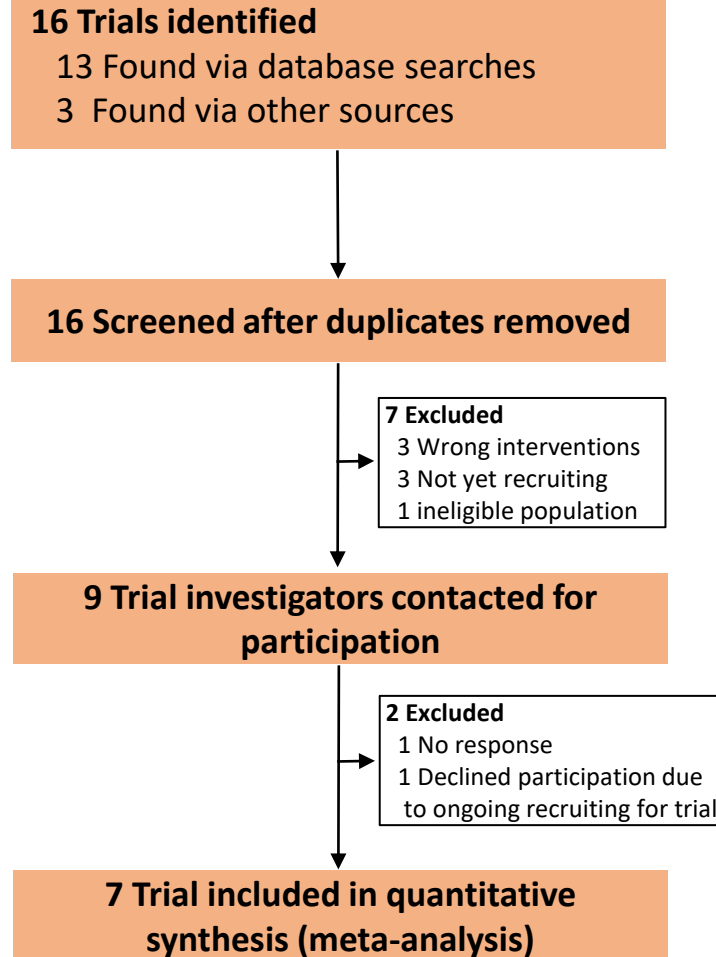
- **Day 28 mortality:** 482/2104 (22,9%) DXM group vs. 1110/4321 (25,7%) usual care group, risk ratio 0,83 $CI_{95\%}[0,75-0,93]$
- **Discharged from hospital within 28 days:** 1413/2104 (67,2%) DXM group vs. 2745/4321 (63,5%) usual care group, risk ratio 1,10 $CI_{95\%}[1,03-1,17]$
- **Invasive mechanical ventilation or death:** 456/1780 (25,6%) DXM group vs. 994/3638 (27,3%) usual care group, risk ratio 0,92 $CI_{95\%}[0,84-1,01]$
- **Limits:** Preliminary report, patients without confirmed SARS-CoV-2 positive PCR included, age of inclusion changed during the study, absence of viral load follow-up



Immunomodulatory
effect

Corticosteroids (CT) - 2

- Prospective Meta-analysis, academic study, WHO
- **Objective:** estimate the association between administration of corticosteroids compared with usual care or placebo and 28-day all-cause mortality
- **Primary outcome:** all-cause mortality at 28 days after randomization
- **Secondary outcome:** investigator-defined serious adverse events
- 1703 included participants; **678 (%) corticosteroid group** (systemic dexamethasone, hydrocortisone, or methylprednisolone); **1025 (62%) usual care or placebo group**

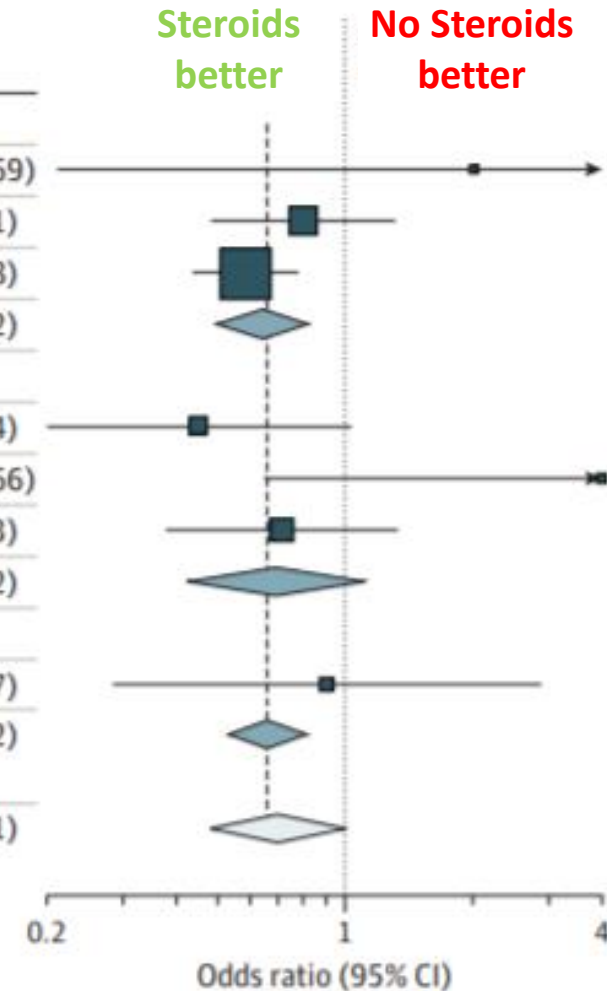


Immunomodulatory
effect

Corticosteroids (CT) - 2

- 222/678 deaths among patients randomized to corticosteroids group vs. 425/1025 deaths among patients randomized to usual care or placebo; OR: 0,66 IC_{95%} [0,53-0,82]; p < 0,001 fixed-effect meta-analysis)
- **Association with mortality: DXM:** 0,64 IC_{95%} [0,5-0,82]; p<0,001 (3 trials), **HC:** 0,69 IC_{95%} [0,43-1,12]; p=0,13 (3 trials), **mPred:** 0,91 IC_{95%} [0,29-2,87]; p=0,87 (1 trial)
- **Limits:** risk of selective reporting or of publication bias, missing outcome data, trials only recruited adults, effect of corticosteroids on children remains unclear

Drug and trial	No. of deaths/total No. of patients		Odds ratio (95% CI)
	Steroids	No steroids	
Dexamethasone			
DEXA-COVID 19	2/7	2/12	2.00 (0.21-18.69)
CoDEX	69/128	76/128	0.80 (0.49-1.31)
RECOVERY	95/324	283/683	0.59 (0.44-0.78)
Subgroup fixed effect	166/459	361/823	0.64 (0.50-0.82)
Hydrocortisone			
CAPE COVID	1/75	20/73	0.46 (0.20-1.04)
COVID STEROID	6/15	2/14	4.00 (0.65-24.66)
REMAP-CAP	26/105	29/92	0.71 (0.38-1.33)
Subgroup fixed effect	43/195	51/179	0.69 (0.43-1.12)
Methylprednisolone			
Steroids-SARI	13/24	13/23	0.91 (0.29-2.87)
Overall (fixed effect)	222/678	425/1025	0.66 (0.53-0.82)
P = .31 for heterogeneity			
Overall (random effects ^a)	222/678	425/1025	0.70 (0.48-1.01)



Immunomodulatory
effect

Corticosteroids (CT) - 3

Authors	CT	Patients	Design	Groups	Outcome	Main results (outcome)
Fadel R	mPred	N=213 Moderate to severe COVID-19	Multi-center, quasi- experimental	mPred vs. no mPred	Escalation of care from ward to ICU	SoC group 31 (44,3%) vs. mPred group 32 (27,3%) OR: 0,47 CI _{95%} [0,25-0,88], p= 0,017
					New requirement for mechanical ventilation	SoC group 26 (36,6%) vs. CT group 26 (21,7%) OR: 0,47 CI _{95%} [0,25-0,92], p= 0,025
					Death	SoC group 21 (26,3%) vs. CT group 18 (13,6%) OR: 0,45 CI _{95%} [0,22-0,91], p= 0,024
Prado Jeronimo	mPred	N=416 Suspected COVID-19 hospitalized patients	Parallel, double- blind, placebo- controlled, randomized	mPred vs. placebo	D28 mortality	mPred group 72/194 (37,1%) vs. placebo group 76/199 (38,2%) HR: 0,924 CI _{95%} [0,669-1,275], p= 0,629
Nelson B	mPred	N=117 Requiring mechanical ventilation	Case-control study	mPred vs. control	D28 ventilator-free after admission	mPred group 6,2 vs. control group 3,14, p=0,044

Immunomodulatory
effect

Corticosteroids (CT) - 4

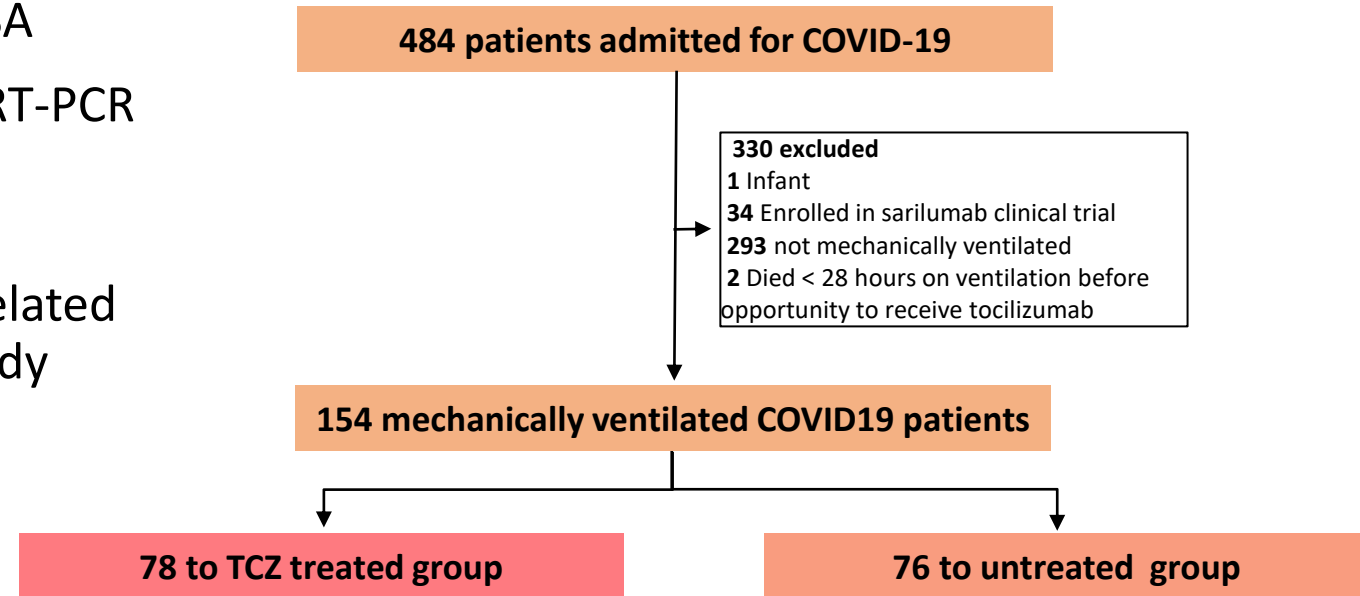
Authors	CT	Patients	Design	Groups	Outcome	Main results (outcome)
Dequin PF	HC	N=149 Critically ill, acute respiratory failure	Multicenter randomized double-blind	HC vs. placebo	D21 treatment failure	Study stopped early HC group 32/76 (42,1%) vs. placebo group 37/76 (50,7%) p= 0,29
Angus D	HC	N=384 Admitted in ICU for respiratory or cardiovascular organ support	Multicenter, openlabel trial	HC vs. placebo	D21 respiratory and cardiovascular organ support-free	Study stopped early No treatment strategy met prespecified criteria for statistical superiority, precluding definitive conclusions
Tomazini BM	DXM	N= 299 Receiving mechanical ventilation	Multicenter, randomized, open- label	DXM + SoC vs. SoC	Ventilator-free days during the first 28 days	Study interrupted DXM + SoC group 6,6 IC _{95%} [5-8,2] vs. SoC group 4,0 IC _{95%} [2,9-5,4], p= 0,04

Immunomodulatory
effect

Tocilizumab (TCZ) - 1

Monoclonal antibody

- **TCZ:** anti-interleukin-6 receptor monoclonal antibody
- Single center, observational, academic study, USA
- **Inclusion criteria :** severe pneumonia, positive RT-PCR SARS-CoV-2 test, required invasive mechanical ventilation
- **Exclusion criteria :** age < 16yo, intubated for unrelated COVID-19 conditions, enrolled for sarilumab study
- **Primary outcome:** survival probability after intubation
- **Secondary outcome:** status at day 28 on a 6-level ordinal scale of illness severity*
- 154 participants; **76 untreated group, 78 TCZ treated group (1:1)**



*(1) discharged alive, (2) hospitalized/off ventilator without superinfection, (3) hospitalized/off ventilator with superinfection, (4) hospitalized/mechanically ventilated without superinfection, (5) hospitalized/mechanically ventilated with superinfection, (6) deceased

Immunomodulatory
effect

Tocilizumab (TCZ) - 1

Monoclonal antibody

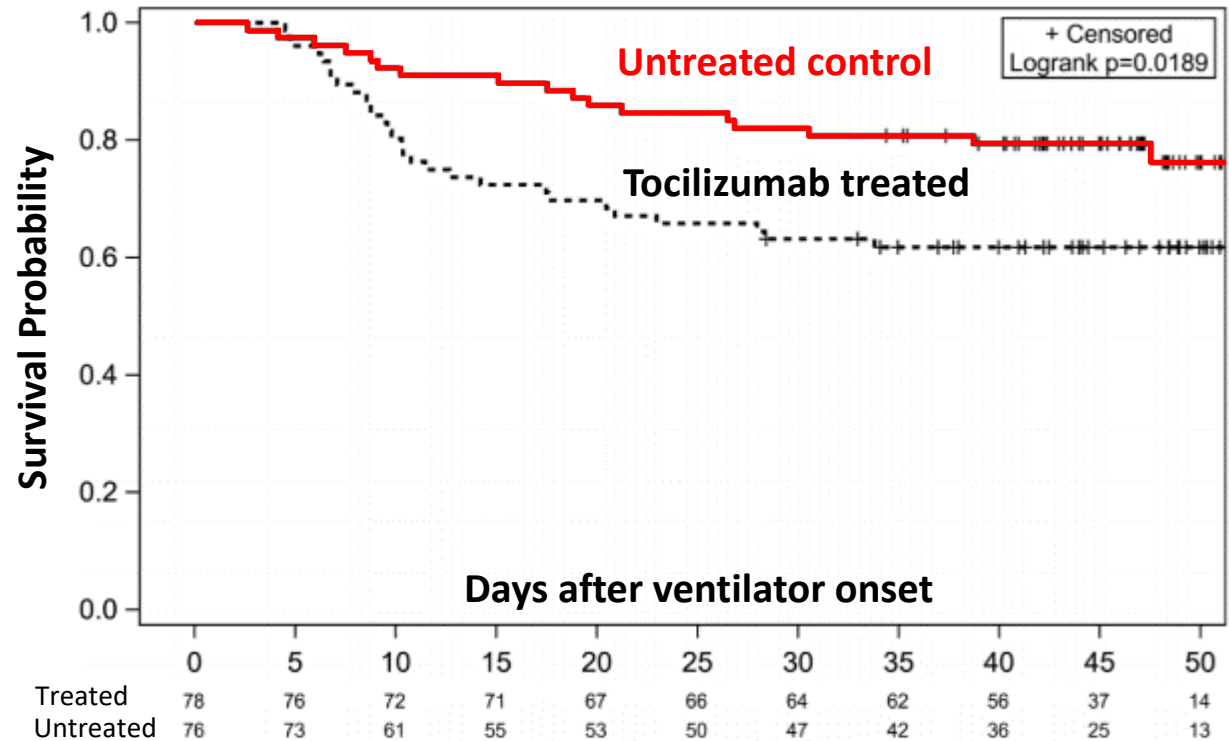
Characteristics	Overall (N=154)	TCZ (N=78)	Untreated (N=76)	P value
Age (y) – mean (SD)	58 (14,9)	55 (14,9)	60 (14,5)	0,05
Female sex – no (%)	52 (41,6)	25 (32)	27 (36)	0,65
BMI (kg/m ²) – no (%)	34,1 (9,5)	34,7 (10,1)	33,4 (8,8)	0,40
Coexisting conditions				
Diabetes – no (%)	25 (16)	10 (13)	15 (20)	0,24
Hypertension – no (%)	102 (66)	50 (64)	52 (68)	0,57
Chronic kidney disease – no (%)	64 (42)	27 (35)	37 (49)	0,99
Values at intubation time				
PaO ₂ /FiO ₂ (n=80) – median (IQR)	165 (136,5 – 231,5)	155 (129,0 – 188,0)	198 (163,0 – 240,0)	0,001
Fatality rate				
14-day case fatality rate – no (%)	-	7 (9)	20 (26)	0,005
28-day case fatality rate – no (%)	-	14 (18)	27 (36)	0,01

Immunomodulatory
effect

Tocilizumab (TCZ) - 1

Monoclonal antibody

- **Survival probability after intubation:** higher among TCZ group vs. untreated group; hazard ratio 0,50 CI_{95%} [0,27-0,90]
- **Superinfections:** 42/78 (54%) TCZ group vs. 20/76 (26%) untreated group, $p < 0,001$
- **Patients with pneumonia:** 35/78 (45%) TCZ group vs. 15/76 (20%) untreated group, $p < 0,001$
- **Patients discharged alive (study period):** 44/78 (56%) TCZ group vs. 30/76 (40%) untreated group, $p = 0,04$
- **Limits:** not a randomized controlled trial, laboratories data were missing, no definition of severe cases nor super infections, only interested in patients mechanically ventilated

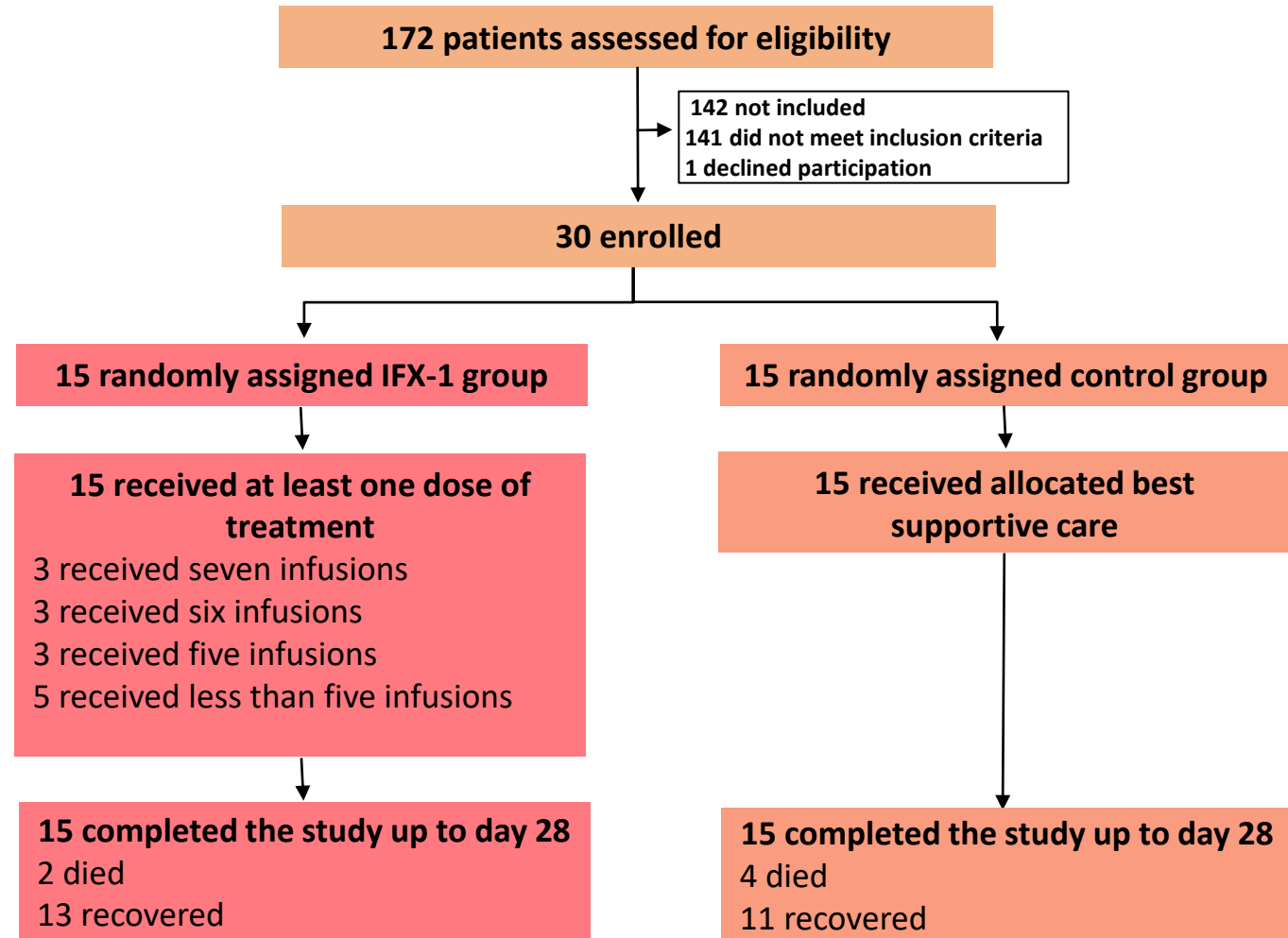


Vilobelimab (IFX-1) - 1

Immunomodulatory
effect

Monoclonal antibody

- **IFX-1**: anti-complement C5a monoclonal antibody
- Exploratory, open label, randomized, phase 2, multicenter, academic study, Netherlands
- **Inclusion criteria** : age \geq 18yo, severe pneumonia (PaO₂/FiO₂ between [100-250] mmHg), positive RT-PCR SARS-CoV-2 test, requiring non-invasive or invasive ventilation
- **Primary outcome**: Day 5 PaO₂/FiO₂ percentage change from the baseline
- **Secondary outcome**: Day 28 mortality
- 30 participants; **15 control group, 15 IFX 1 treated group (1:1)**

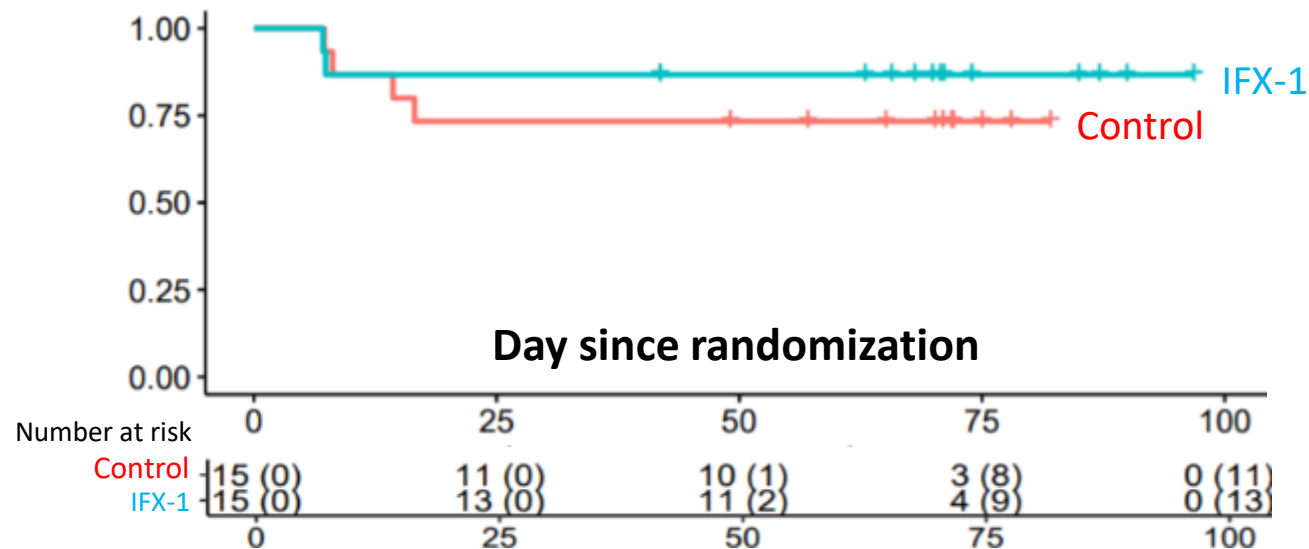


Vilobelimab (IFX-1) - 1

Immunomodulatory
effect

Monoclonal antibody

- **Day 5 PaO₂/FiO₂ percentage change:** no differences; IFX-1 group (17%) vs. control group (41%); difference -24% CI_{95%} [-58-9], p=0,15
- **D28 mortality:** IFX-1 group 13%; CI_{95%}[0-31] vs. control group 27 %; CI_{95%}[7-49]; HR=0,65 CI_{95%}[0,1-4,14]

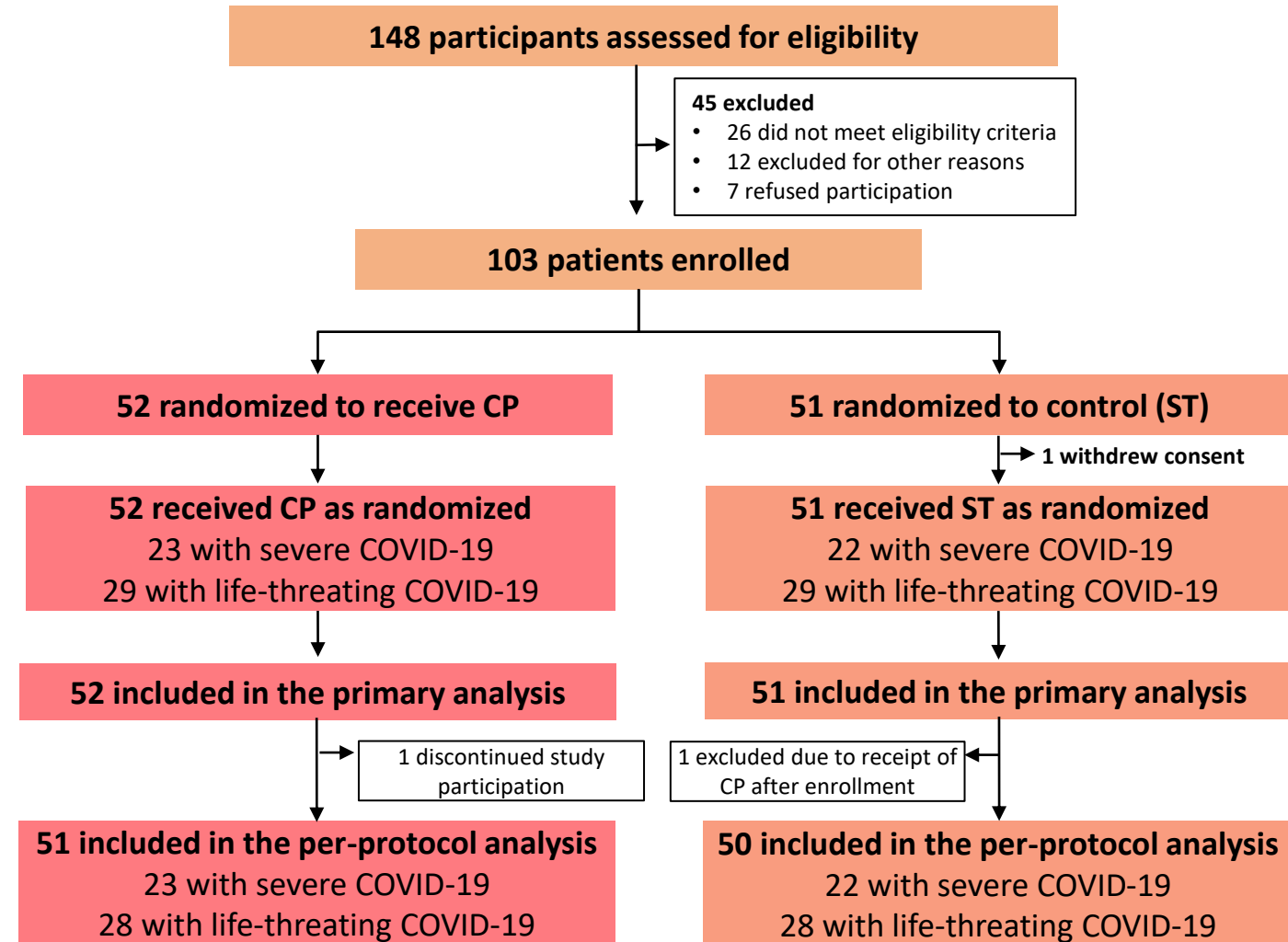


- **Limits:** patient heterogeneity, open label study

Characteristics	IFX-1 (N=15)	Control (N=15)
Age, mean (SD) - yr	58 (9)	63 (8)
Male sex – no (%)	11 (73)	11 (73)
Coexisting conditions		
Hypertension – no (%)	6 (40)	3 (20)
Diabetes – no (%)	4 (27)	4 (27)
Obesity – no (%)	2 (13)	4 (27)
Respiratory support		
Intubated at randomization – no (%)	8 (53)	10 (67)
Oxygen mask – no (%)	6 (40)	2 (13)
Nasal cannula – no (%)	1(7)	3 (20)

Convalescent plasma (CP) - 1

- Open-label, multicenter, randomized, academic study, China
- **Inclusion criteria:** age \geq 18yo, chest imaging pneumonia confirmed, positive SARS-CoV-2 RT PCR, hospital admission, severe pneumonia (\geq 30 breaths/min, SpO₂ \leq 94% (room air) or PaO₂/FiO₂ \leq 300)
- **Main outcome:** time to clinical improvement within 28 days
- **Other outcomes:** D28 mortality, time to discharge, SARS-CoV-2 PCR rate results turned negative
- **CP + SoC group:** 52 patients vs. **SoC group (control):** 51 patients (1:1)

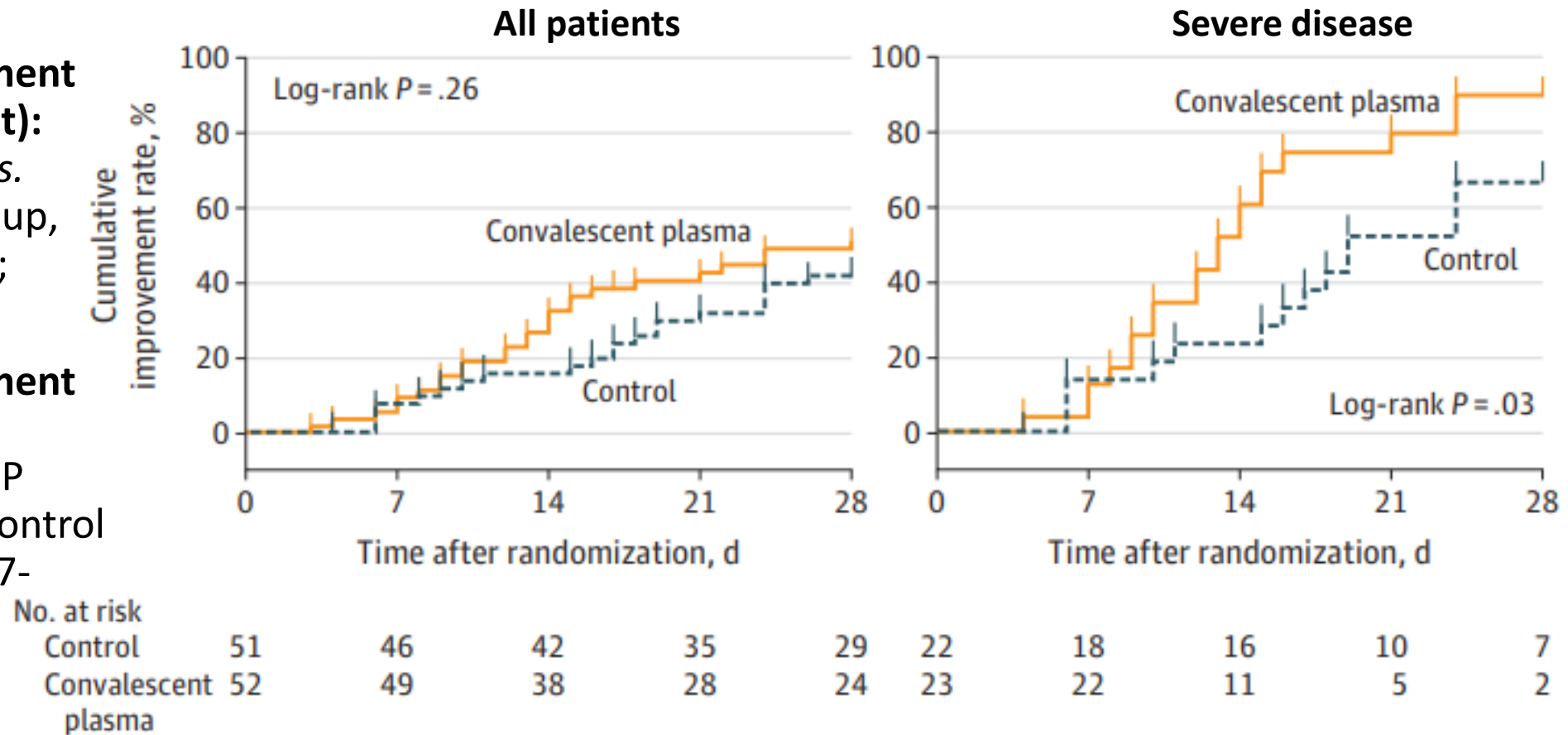


Convalescent plasma (CP) - 1

Characteristics	CP group (N=52)	Control group (N=51)
Age, median (IQR) – yr	70 (62-80)	69 (63-76)
Male sex – no (%)	27 (51,9)	33 (64,7)
Co existing conditions		
Diabetes – no (%)	9 (17,3)	12 (23,5)
Hypertension – no (%)	29 (55,8)	27 (52,9)
Cardiovascular disease – no (%)	14 (26,9)	12 (23,5)
Cerebrovascular disease – no (%)	11 (21,2)	7 (13,7)
Cancer – no (%)	3 (5,8)	0
Vital sign		
Respiratory rate > 24/min – no (%)	11/52 (21,2)	7/49 (14,3)

Convalescent plasma (CP) - 1

- **Time to clinical improvement within 28 days (all patient):** 51,9% (27/52) CP group vs. 43,1% (22/51) control group, HR: 1,40 CI_{95%}[0,79-2,49]; $p = 0,26$
- **Time to clinical improvement within 28 days (severe disease):** 91.3% (21/23) CP group vs. 68.2% (15/22) control group, HR: 2,15 CI_{95%}[1,07-4,32]; $p = 0,03$



- **Limits:** small number of participants, CP administered late, SoC not protocolized, did not reach recruitment targets; 103 participants enrolled rather than 200 initially expected

Convalescent plasma (CP) - 2

- Multi centric, open label, academic study, USA
- **Inclusion criteria:** age \geq 18yo, hospitalized, laboratory confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection, high risk of progression to severe or life-threatening COVID-19 (dyspnea, \geq 30 breaths/min, SpO₂ \leq 93%, lung infiltrates $>$ 50% within 24-28 hours of enrollment, respiratory failure, septic shock, multiple organ dysfunction, failure)
- **Main Outcomes :** determine the safety of transfusion of COVID-19 CP (incidence and relatedness of serious adverse events including death)
- **Convalescent plasma:** from COVID-19 survivor, symptoms free for at least 14 days, administrated intravenously, volume range from 200 cc to 500cc

Characteristics	N=5 000
Age, median (range) – yr	62,3 (18,5-97,8)
Male sex – no (%)	3 153 (63,1)
Clinical Status	
Current severe or life-threatening COVID-19 – no (%)	4 051 (81,0)
High risk of severe COVID-19 – no (%)	949 (19,0)
ICU admission – no (%)	3 316 (66,3)
Clinical symptoms	
Respiratory failure – no (%)	2 912 (71,9)
Dyspnea – no (%)	2 550 (62,9)
Blood oxygen saturation \leq 93% – no (%)	2 519 (62,2)
Respiratory frequency \geq 30/min – no (%)	1 546 (38,2)
PaO ₂ /FiO ₂ $<$ 300	1 365 (33,7)
Septic shock	600 (14,8)

Convalescent plasma (CP) - 2

- **Incidence** of serious adverse events (SAEs) in the first four hours after transfusion: < 1% (N=36)
- **Related SAEs:** 3 severe allergic transfusion reactions, 4 deaths, 18 TACO&TRALI (2 definitely related to CP)
- **Seven-day mortality rate:** 14,9%
- **Limits:** lack of detailed training of study personnel and monitoring, criteria specific to hospitalized patients

Serious Adverse Evens (SAEs) Characteristics	Reported (N=36)	Related (N=25)	Estimate (CI _{95%})
Four hour reports			
Mortality	15	4	0,08% (0,03-0,21)
Transfusion-Associated Circulatory Overload (TACO)	7	7	0,14% (0,07-0,29)
Transfusion-Related Acute Lung Injury (TRALI)	11	11	0,22% (0,12-0,39)
Severe allergic transfusion reaction	3	3	0,06% (0,02-0,18)
Seven day reports		Reported	Estimate (CI_{95%})
Mortality	602		14,9% (13,8-16,0)

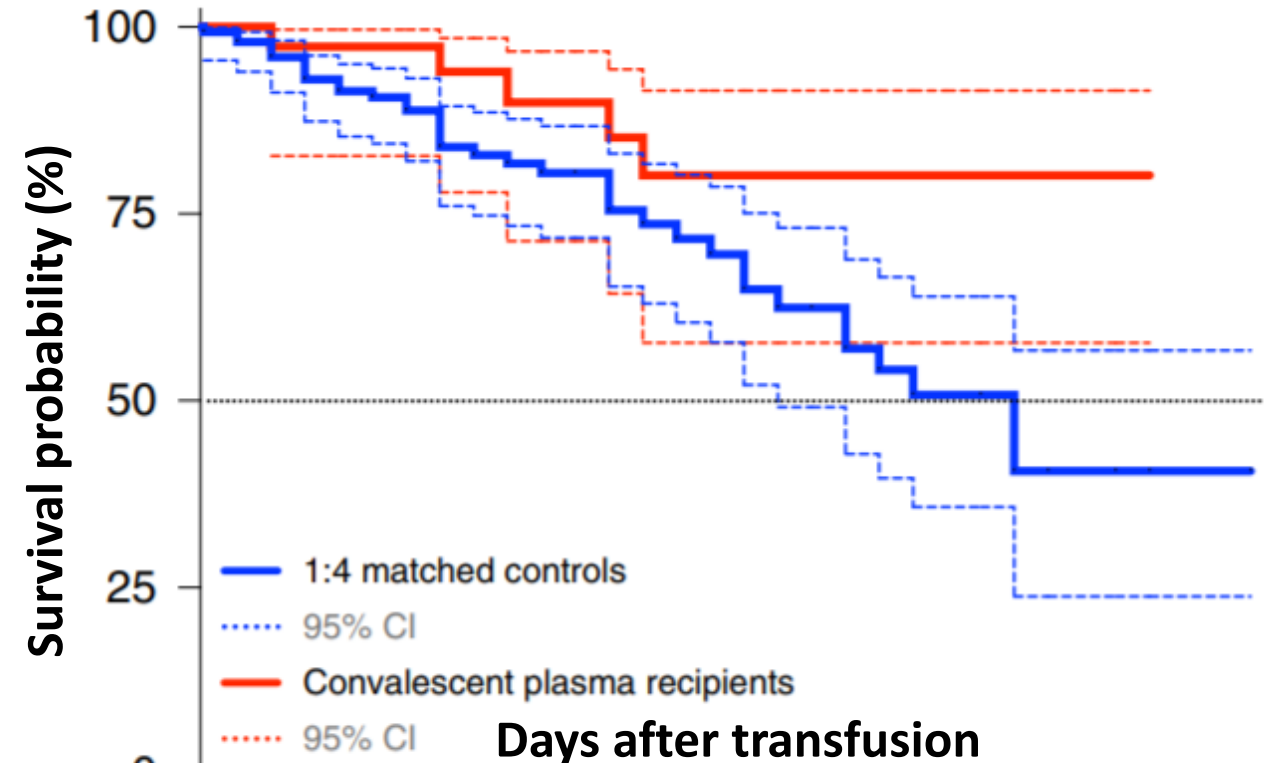
Convalescent plasma (CP) - 3

- Retrospective, propensity score-matched case-control study, academic study, USA
- **Inclusion criteria:** laboratory confirmed COVID-19, severe (dyspnea, respiratory frequency ≥ 30 /min, $SpO_2 \leq 93\%$, $PaO_2/FiO_2 < 300$ mm Hg, and/or lung infiltrates $> 50\%$ within 24 to 48 hours) or immediately life-threatening (respiratory failure, septic shock, and/or multiple organ dysfunction or failure) COVID-19,
- **Main outcome :** D14 oxygen requirement
- **Other outcomes:** death, discharge alive, survival probability
- **Convalescent plasma group:** 39 patients vs. **Control group :** 156 patients (1:4)

Characteristics	CP group (N=39)
Age, mean (SD) – yr	55 (13)
Male sex – no (%)	25 (64)
BMI, mean (SD) – kg/m ²	31,7 (6)
Co existing conditions	
Diabetes – no (%)	8 (21)
Current or former smoker – no (%)	29 (55,8)
Cancer – no (%)	2 (5)
Vital sign	
Respiratory rate ≥ 20 /min – no (%)	28 (72)
Heart rate > 100 /min – no (%)	22 (56)

Convalescent plasma (CP) - 3

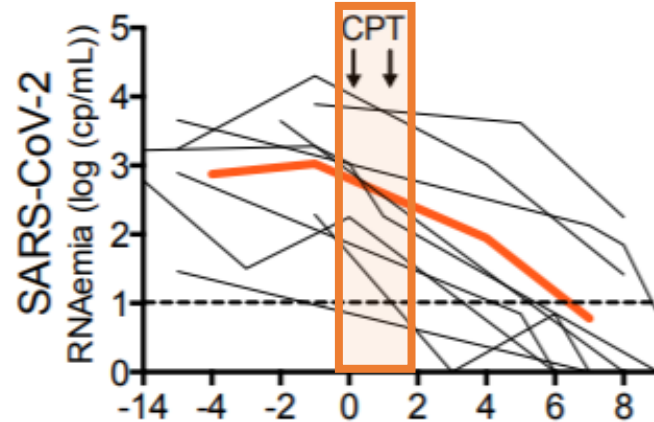
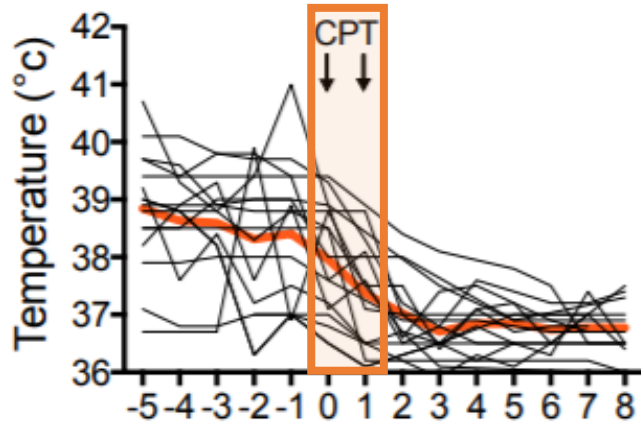
- **D14 oxygen requirements:** worsened in 17.9% of convalescent plasma recipients versus 28.2% of propensity score matched controls hospitalized with COVID-19
- **Death:** 12,8% of convalescent plasma recipients and 24,4% of the 1:4 matched control patients
- **Discharged alive:** of convalescent plasma recipients and 71,8% and 66,7% of the 1:4 matched control patients
- **Survival probability:** greater in convalescent plasma recipients than controls
- **Limits:** small sample size, not a randomized controlled trial



	0	10	20	30
Number of patients at risk	156	65	20	1
	39	22	9	0

Convalescent plasma (CP) - 4

- Observational, multicenter, academic study, France
- **Inclusion criteria:** B-cell immunodeficiency with prolonged COVID-19 symptoms, positive SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR from respiratory samples, no SARS-CoV-2 seroconversion
- 17 patients treated with 4 units of COVID-19 convalescent plasma

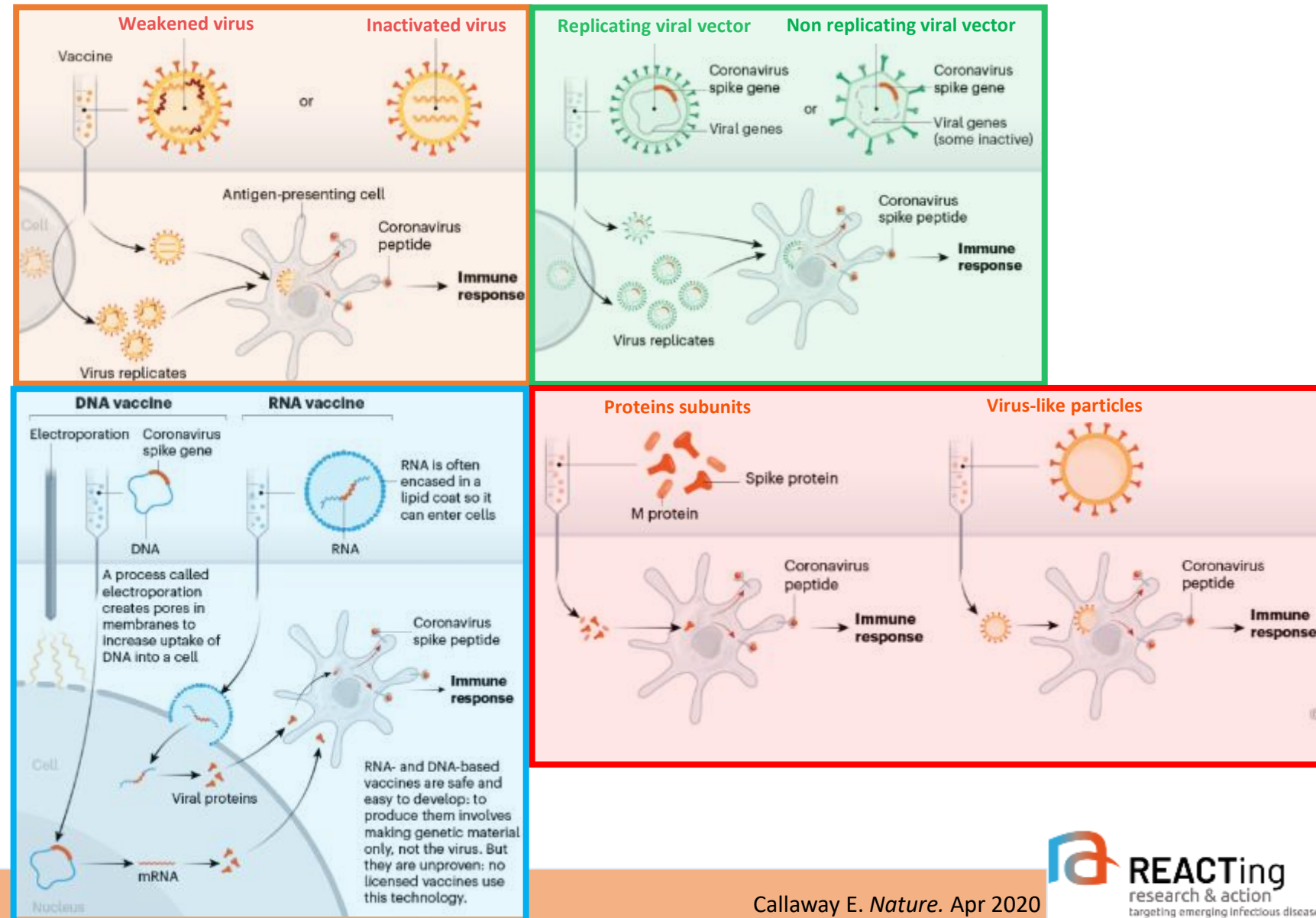


- **Clinical symptoms:** 16/17 patients experienced amelioration of SARS-CoV-2 within 48 hours CP
- **SARS-CoV-2 RNAemia:** 9/9 patients witnessed a decreased below sensitivity threshold

Characteristics (N=17)		CP
Age, median [range] - yr		58 [35-77]
Male sex – no (%)		12 (71)
Hematological malignancies		15 (88)
Non - Hematological malignancies		2 (12)
COVID -19 severity (WHO score), n (%)	4 – no (%)	5 (29)
	5-6 – no (%)	10 (59)
	7 – no (%)	2 (12)
Time between COVID -19 symptoms onset and CPT (days), median [range]		56 [7-83]
Time for oxygen weaning after CPT (days), median [range]		5 [1-45]
Overall survival, n (%)		16 (94)

Vaccine

- **Vaccines aims:** expose the immune system to an antigen that won't cause disease, provoke an immune response (able to block/kill the virus)
- **Eight types of vaccines:**
 - **virus** (inactivated, weakened),
 - **viral vector** (replicating, non replicating)
 - **nucleic acid** (DNA, RNA)
 - **protein based** (protein subunit, virus like particles)

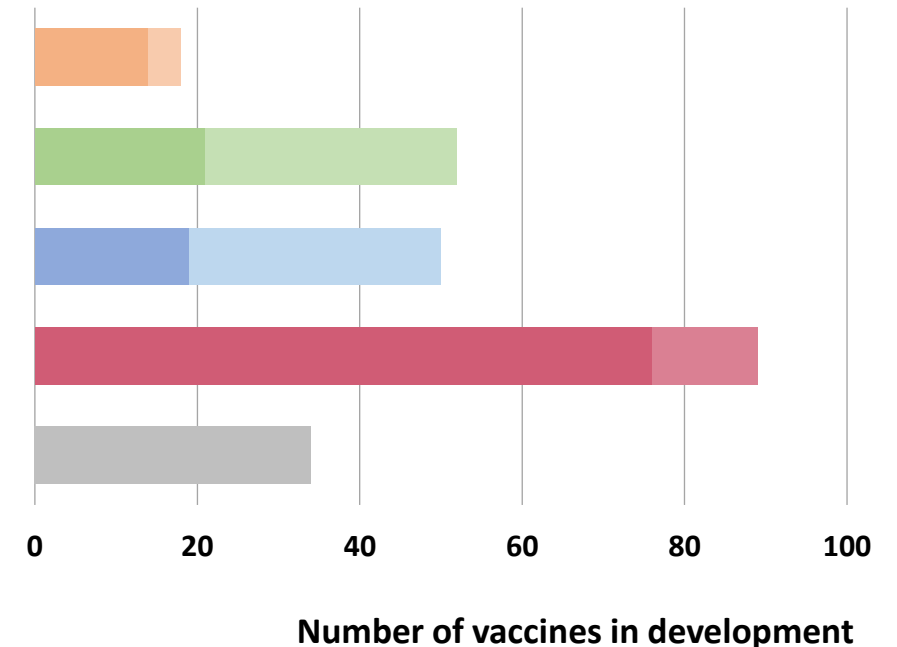


Vaccine

- **R&D landscape:** WHO lists more than 151 candidates in preclinical development, 42 candidate vaccines in clinical evaluation (October 2nd); update available at :

<https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/draft-landscape-of-covid-19-candidate-vaccines>

		Preclinical	Phase I	Phase I/II	Phase II	Phase II/III	Phase III	Licensed
VIRUS	Inactivated	7	1	3			3	
	Weakened	4						
VIRAL VECTOR	Replicating	17	4	1				
	Non replicating	25	2				4	
NUCLEIC ACID	DNA	14	1	4				
	RNA	25	2	2	1	1	1	
PROTEIN BASED	Protein subunit	62	8	4	1		1	
	Virus-like Particles	13	1	1				
Other/unknown		32	3					



2 non replicating viral vector and 3 inactivated vaccines already approved for early or limited use (approved by Chinese or Russian medicines agencies before Phase III results)

















Approved for limited use



Phase I/II data available (peer reviewed)



Phase I/II data available (pre-print)

Developer	Vaccine Platform	Description
 BioNTech – Pfizer – Fosun Pharma	RNA	BNT162b2* : Lipid nanoparticle-formulated, nucleoside modified mRNA vaccine encoding full-length spike (S) protein <i>* Phase I published data refers to candidate BNT162b1 using RBD as antigen (Ugur S et al Nature, Sep 2020). The company has decided to proceed to Phase II/III trials with BNT162b2 candidate who displayed reactogenicity in vaccinated adults.</i>
 Moderna – NIAID	RNA	mRNA-1273 : Lipid nanoparticle encapsulated, mRNA vaccine encoding pre fusion spike (S) protein
  CanSino Biologicals Inc – Beijing Institute of Biotechnology	Non replicating viral vector	Ad5-nCoV : Replication-deficient Ad5 vector containing optimised full-length spike (S) protein
  Gamaleya Research Institute	Non replicating viral vector	Sputnik V : Recombinant Ad26 (prime) and recombinant Ad5 (boost) viruses expressing the gene for spike (S) protein
 Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies – Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center	Non replicating viral vector	Ad26COVS1 : Recombinant adenovirus vaccine (Ad26) incorporating SARS-CoV-2 full stabilized Spike (S) protein
 University of Oxford – AstraZeneca	Non replicating viral vector	ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 : Replication-deficient simian adenovirus vector containing codon-optimised spike (S) protein
 Novavax	Protein subunit	NVX-COV2373 : Recombinant nanoparticle vaccine consisting of full-length spike (S) protein , with or without Matrix-M1 adjuvant
  Sinovac – Institut Butantan	Inactivated	CoronaVac : β-propiolactone inactivated vaccine administered with aluminium hydroxide adjuvant
 Beijing Institute of Biological Products – Sinopharm	Inactivated	BBIBP-CorV : β-propiolactone inactivated vaccine administered with aluminium hydroxide adjuvant
  Wuhan Institute of Biological products– Sinopharm	Inactivated	SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine : β-propiolactone inactivated vaccine adsorbed to 0.5-mg aluminum

mRNA vaccine

mRNA 1273

IMMUNOGENICITY 1/2

Moderna-NIH

Phase I: [NCT04283461](#)

1. GMHI* assay to spike protein in trial participants.

Study Design	Phase I open-label, non-randomised, dose-finding trial
Age range	18 – 55
Nb of participants	45
Nb of doses/route	2 (days 1/29)-IM
Vaccine groups	25 µg (n = 15) 100 µg (n = 15) 250 µg (n = 15)
SAE	None
Local AE	Injection site pain (67–100% at ds1, 77–100% at ds 2)
Systemic AE	Headache (20–47% at ds1, 23–100% at ds2), myalgia (7–27% at ds1, 23–93% at ds2), chills (8–86% at ds2), fatigue (27–33% at ds1, 39–80% at ds2), fever (0–57% at ds2), nausea (0–47% at ds 2)

Assay: ELISA

Units: Geometric mean titre (95% CI)

Time Point	25-µg Group		100-µg Group		250-µg Group		Convalescent Serum	
	no.	GMT (95% CI)	no.	GMT (95% CI)	no.	GMT (95% CI)	no.	GMT (95% CI)
ELISA anti-S-2P							38	142,140 (81,543–247,768)
Day 1	15	116 (72–187)	15	131 (65–266)	15	178 (81–392)		
Day 15†	15	32,261 (18,723–55,587)	15	86,291 (56,403–132,016)	15	163,449 (102,155–261,520)		
Day 29	15	40,227 (29,094–55,621)	15	109,209 (79,050–150,874)	14	213,526 (128,832–353,896)		
Day 36	13	391,018 (267,402–571,780)	15	781,399 (606,247–1,007,156)	14	1,261,975 (973,972–1,635,140)		
Day 43	13	379,764 (281,597–512,152)	14	811,119 (656,336–1,002,404)	14	994,629 (806,189–1,227,115)		
Day 57	13	299,751 (206,071–436,020)	14	782,719 (619,310–989,244)	13	1,192,154 (924,878–1,536,669)		

Binding antibody IgG geometric mean titers (GMTs) to S protein: **seroconversion in all participants by day 15.**

A recent study shows that mRNA 1273 vaccine induces specific IgG responses and NAbs in adults older than 70 years of age. (Anderson EJ, NEJM 2020)

mRNA 1273

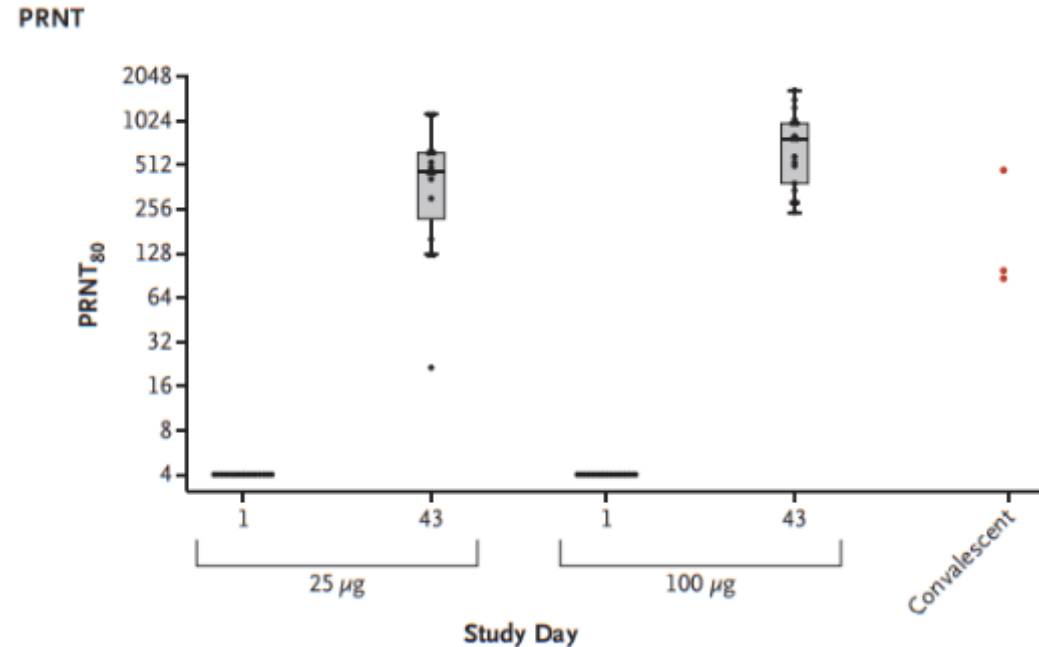
IMMUNOGENICITY 2/2

2. Neutralizing responses

Assay: Plaque-reduction neutralization test (80% inhibitory dilution)

Units: Geometric mean response, ID₈₀ (95% CI)

At day 43, **wild-type virus–neutralizing activity capable of reducing SARS-CoV-2 infectivity by 80% or more (PRNT₈₀)** detected in all participants, with geometric mean PRNT₈₀ responses of 339.7 (95% CI, 184.0 to 627.1) in the 25- μ g group and 654.3 (95% CI, 460.1 to 930.5) in the 100- μ g group



3. Cellular responses: 25- μ g and 100- μ g doses elicit CD4 T-cell responses **biased toward expression of Th1 cytokines** (TNF α > IL2 > IFN γ).

Adenoviral vector
vaccine

Ad5-nCoV

CaSino BIO

Phase I: [NCT04313127](#)

Phase II: [NCT04341389](#)

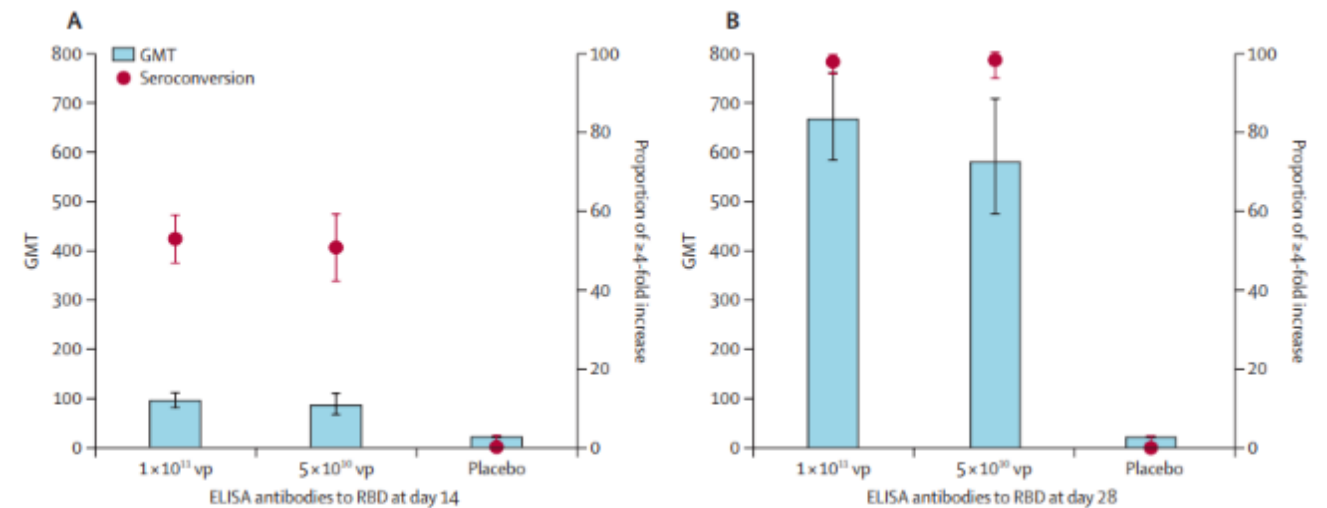
Study Design	Phase I open-label, non-randomized, dose-finding trial Phase II randomized controlled, dose-finding trial
Age range	Phase I: 18 – 60; Phase II >18
Nb of participants	Phase I: 108; Phase II: 508
Nb of doses/route	1–IM
Vaccine groups	Phase I: Low dose: 5×10^{10} vp (n = 36) Medium dose: 1×10^{11} vp (n = 36) High dose: 1.5×10^{11} vp (n = 36) Phase II: Low (n=129) and medium (n=253) Control group: placebo (N=126)
SAE	None
Local AE	Injection site pain (Ph I: 47–58%; Ph II: 56 – 57%)
Systemic AE	Fever (Ph I: 42–56%; Ph II: 16-32%), fatigue (Ph I: 39–47%; Ph II: 34-42%), headache (Ph I: 31–47%; Ph II: 28-29%)

IMMUNOGENICITY 1/2 *(data corresponding to Phase II trial)*

1. RBD-specific ELISA antibody responses induced by the Ad5-NCov vaccine

Assay: ELISA

Units: Geometric mean titre (95% CI)



Anti-RBD IgG responses detected **from day 14**. At day 28, the specific IgGs peaked at 656.5 (575.2–749.2) at the low dose group and 571.0 (467.6–697.3) at the high dose group. **Seroconversion** on 96% (95% CI 93–98) within the low dose group and 97% (95% CI 92–99) at the high dose group

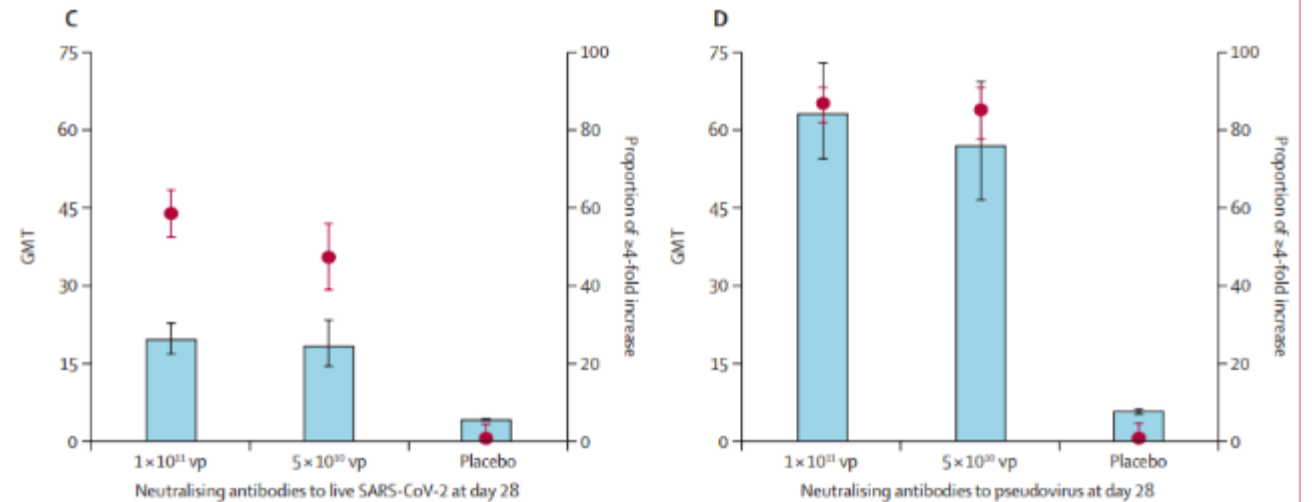
IMMUNOGENICITY 2/2 *(data corresponding to Phase II trial)*

2. Neutralizing responses

Assay: SARS-CoV-2 virus neutralization test

Units: Geometric mean titer (95% CI)

Significant neutralizing antibody responses to live SARS-CoV-2, with GMTs of 19.5 (95% CI 16.8–22.7) and 18.3 (14.4–23.3) (low vs high dose groups) at day 28 post vaccination.



Pre-existing adenovirus type-5 neutralising antibody

≤1:200, titre	127 (50%)	54 (42%)	61 (48%)
>1:200, titre	126 (50%)	75 (58%)	65 (52%)

Ad5 pre-existing immunity did not prevent neutralization titers

3. Induction of T cell mediated responses

Adenoviral vector
vaccine

Sputnik V

Gamaleya Research Institute Phase I/II: [NCT04436471](#) (frozen product)
[NCT04437875](#) (lyo product)

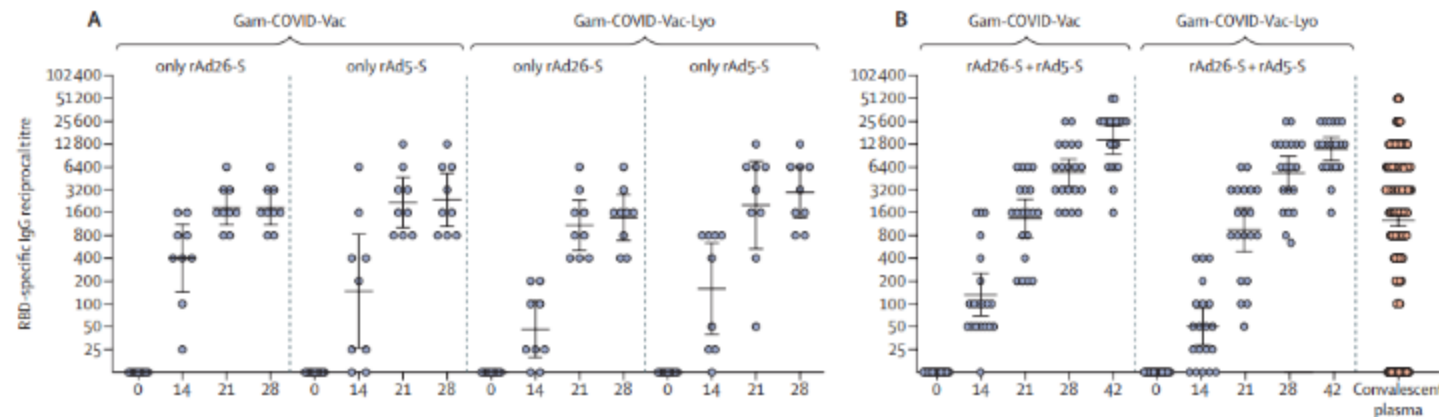
IMMUNOGENICITY 1/2

1. SARS-CoV-2 RBD-specific IgGs

Assay: ELISA

Units: Geometric mean titre (95% CI)

Study Design	Phase I/II open-label, non-randomised trial
Age range	18 – 60
Nb of participants	76
Nb of doses/route	1 (day 0) or 2 (rAd26 on day 0, rAd5 on day 21) -IM
Vaccine groups	Frozen 1 x 10 ¹¹ rAd26 (n = 9) Frozen 1 x 10 ¹¹ rAd5 (n = 9) Frozen 10 ¹¹ rAd26/10 ¹¹ rAd5 (n = 20) Lyo 1 x 10 ¹¹ rAd26 (n = 9) Lyo 1 x 10 ¹¹ rAd5 (n = 9) Lyo 10 ¹¹ rAd26/10 ¹¹ rAd5 (n = 20)
SAE	None
Local AE	Injection site pain (40–78%)
Systemic AE	Changes in laboratory variables (67–100%), hyperthermia (11–100%), headache (25–67%), asthenia (0–55%), muscle or joint pain (11–33%), subjective heartbeat palpitation (0–33%)



Anti-RBD IgG responses detected **from day 14** for both products and in all vaccine administration schemes. At **day 21** RBD-specific IgGs were detected in **100% of vaccinated** participants. ([GMT] 1629 with the frozen formulation and 951 with the lyophilized one). **Heterologous boosting** with rAd5-S led to an **increase in SARS-CoV-2 RBD specific IgG titres**; 7 days after boost.

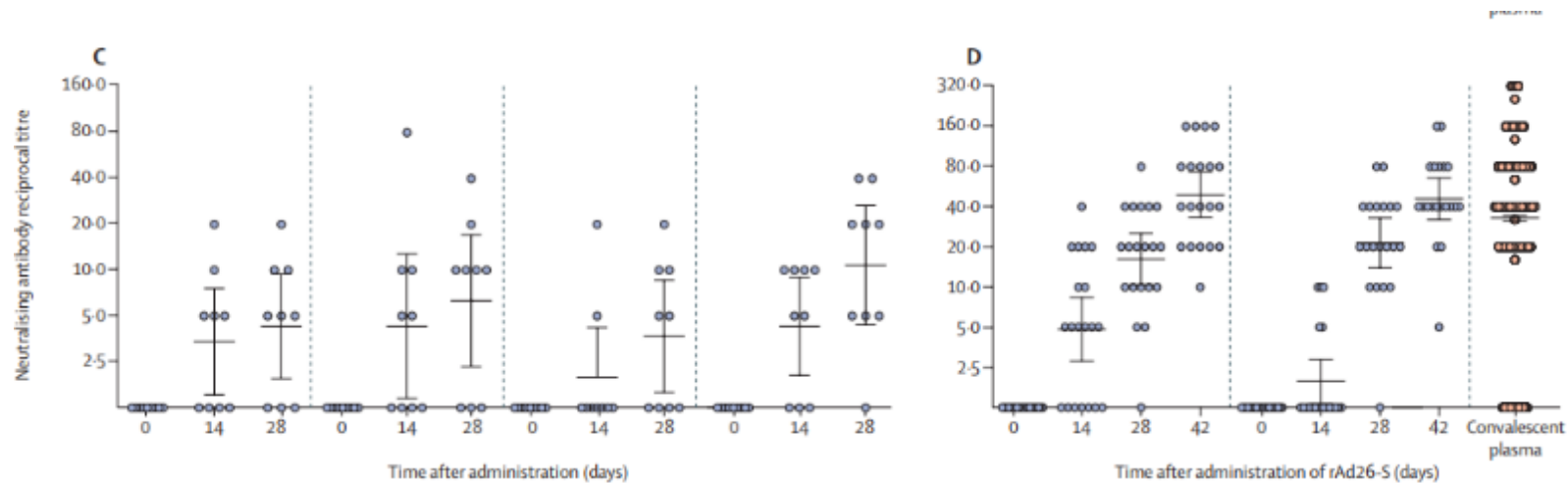
Sputnik V

IMMUNOGENICITY 2/2

2. Neutralizing responses

Assay: Microneutralisation assay (50% inhibitory dilution, Vero E6 cells)

Units: Geometric mean titre, ID50 (95% CI)



Administration of **both rAd26-S and rAd5-2** led to production of **neutralizing antibodies in 100% of participants**, whereas administration of only rAd26-S led to a lower seroconversion rate

3. T cell response: induction of **CD4+** and **CD8+** cells and an increase in the concentration of **interferon- γ** secretion

Adenoviral vector
vaccine

ChAdOx1 nCoV-19

AstraZeneca-Oxford University Phase I: [NCT04324606](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT04324606)

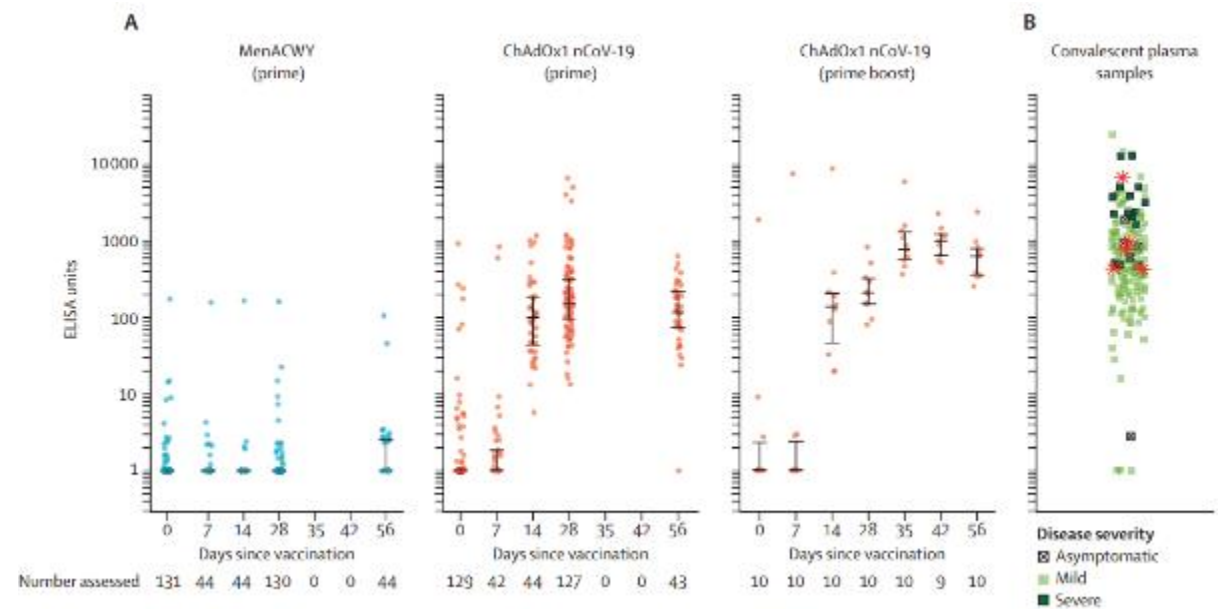
Study Design	Phase I/II randomised controlled trial
Age range	18 – 55
Nb of participants	1077
Nb of doses/route	1 (day 0) or 2 (days 0/28)- IM
Vaccine groups	1 dose at 5×10^{10} viral particles (n = 543) 2 doses at 5×10^{10} viral particles (n = 10; non-randomised) Control group: MenACWY (n = 534)
SAE	None* (<i>Ph III trial suspended and resumed in Sep 2020 due to 2 cases of transverse myelitis among participants, found not to be related to vaccination</i>)
Local AE	Without prophylactic paracetamol: tenderness (83%), injection site pain (67%), warmth (25%). With prophylactic paracetamol: tenderness (77%), injection site pain (50%).
Systemic AE	Without prophylactic paracetamol: fatigue (70%), headache (68%), malaise (61%), chills (56%), feverish (51%), joint pain (31%), nausea (25%). With prophylactic paracetamol: fatigue (71%), headache (61%), malaise (48%), feverish (36%), joint pain (29%), chills (27%), nausea (25%).

IMMUNOGENICITY 1/2

1. SARS-CoV-2 IgG response by standardized ELISA to spike protein in trial participants. Comparison with PCR confirmed COVID19 cases

Assay: ELISA

Units: Median ELISA units (IQR)



Anti-spike IgG responses rose by day 28 (median 157 EU, [96–317], boosted after a 2nd dose (639 EU, 360–792)

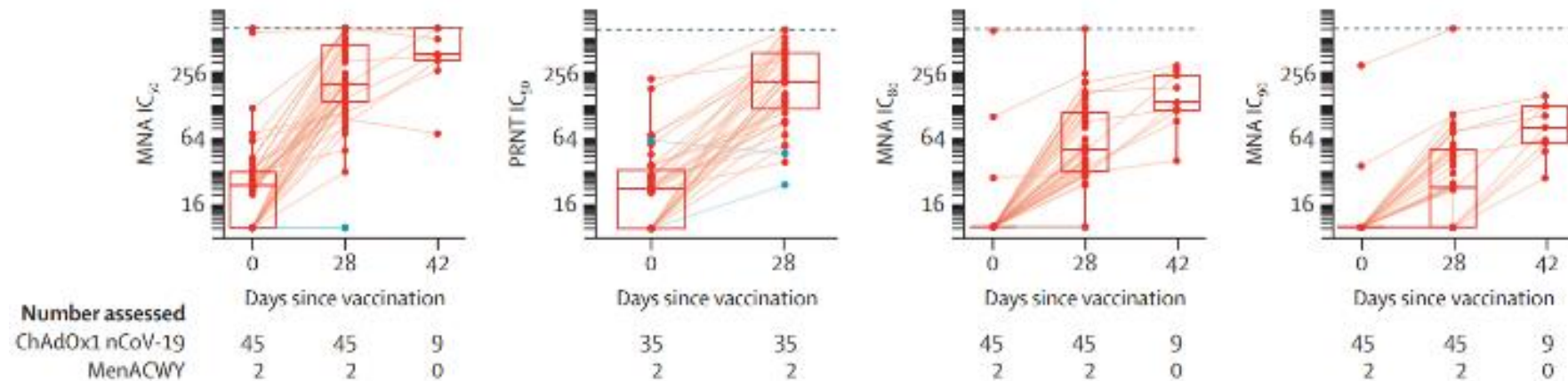
ChAdOx1 nCoV-19

IMMUNOGENICITY 2/2

2. Live SARS-CoV-2 neutralization assays (PHE PRNT50) and microneutralisation assays (PHE MNA)

Assay: Plaque-reduction neutralisation test (50% inhibitory dilution)/ Microneutralisation assay (80% inhibitory dilution)

Units: Median titre, ID50 (IQR)



Neutralizing antibody responses: detected in 32 (91%) of 35 participants after a single dose when measured (MNA_{80}) and in 35 (100%) participants when measured in $PRNT_{50}$. After a booster dose, all participants had neutralizing activity (nine of nine in MNA_{80} at day 42)

3. Induction of T cell responses and increase of IFN- γ expression

Protein Subunit
vaccine

NVX-COV-2373

NOVAVAX

Phase I: [NCT04368988](#)

Study Design	Phase I randomised controlled, dose-finding trial
Age range	18 – 59
Nb of participants	131
Nb of doses/route	1 (day 0) or 2 (days 0/21) - IM
Vaccine groups	2 x 25 µg (n = 25) 2 x 5 µg + 50 µg Matrix-M1 (n = 28) 2 x 25 µg + 50 µg Matrix-M1 (n = 28) 1 x 25 µg + 50 µg Matrix-M1 (n = 25) 2 x 5 µg and 2 x 25 µg included 3 sentinel participants who were vaccinated in an open-label manner and observed for reactogenicity Control group: 0.9% saline placebo (n = 25)
SAE	None
Local AE	Tenderness (20–65% at ds1, 12–81% at ds2), injection site pain (24–54% at ds1, 8–63% at ds 2)
Systemic AE	Headache (23–40% at dose 1, 28–58% at dose 2), muscle pain/myalgia (12–32% at dose 1, 8–54% at dose 2), fatigue (16–40% at dose 1, 12–50% at dose 2), malaise (4–28% at dose 1, 8–38% at dose 2), joint pain (4–27% at dose 2)

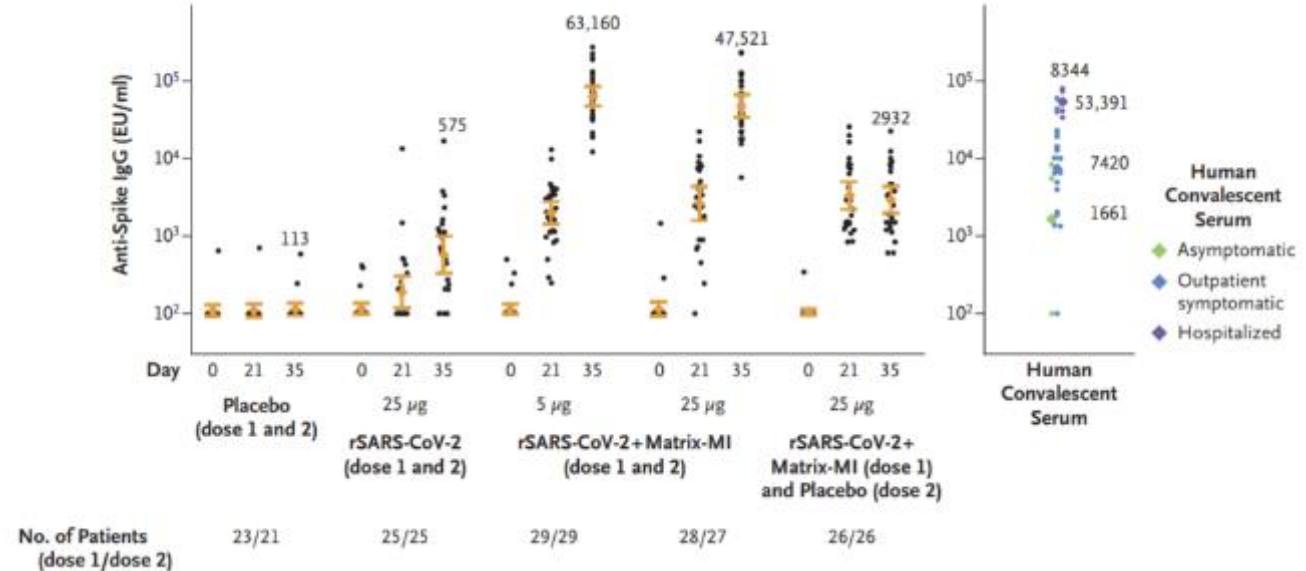
IMMUNOGENICITY 1/2

1. SARS-CoV-2 Anti-Spike IgGs

Assay: ELISA

Units: Geometric mean titre (95% CI)

A SARS-CoV-2 Anti-Spike IgG ELISA



By day 21 after 1st vaccination, IgG specific responses occurred for all adjuvant regimens (10-fold of non adjuvant). IgGs concentrations further increased after 2nd dose vaccination (day 29 and day 35)

NVX-COV-2373

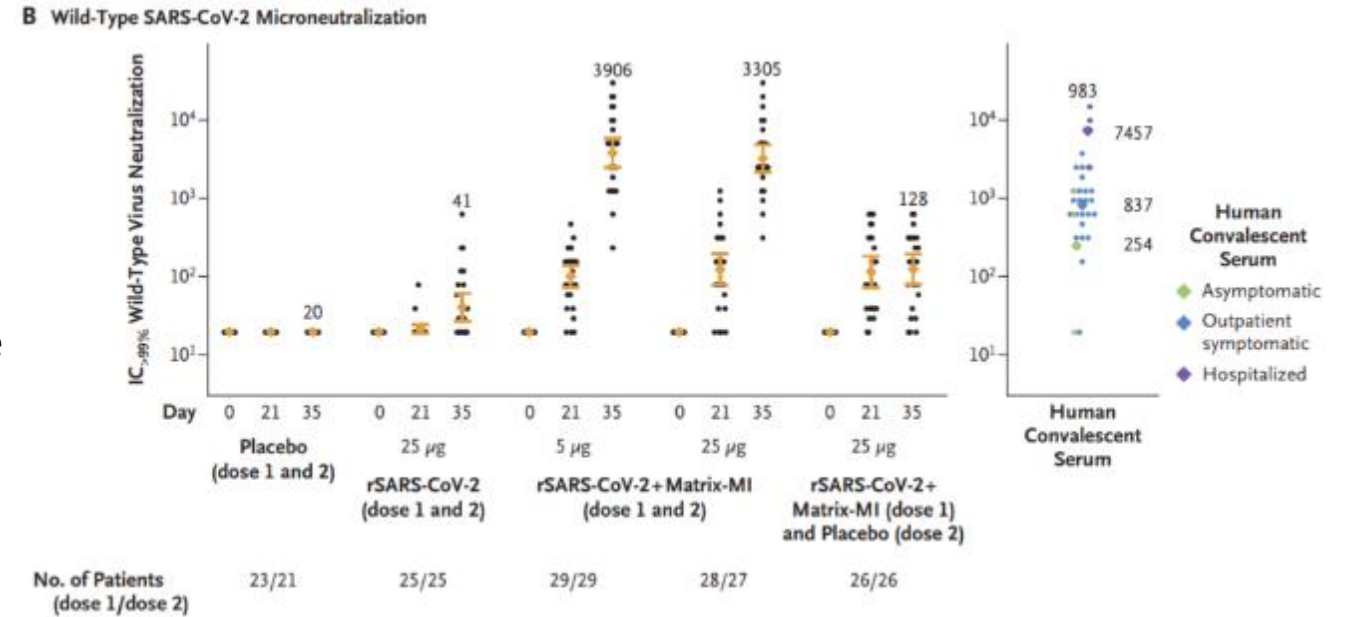
IMMUNOGENICITY 2/2

2. Neutralizing responses

Assay: Microneutralisation assay (99% inhibitory dilution, Vero E6 cells)

Units: Geometric mean titre, ID99 (95% CI)

Two doses of adjuvant vaccine induced an increase on the concentration of neutralizing antibodies more than **100 times greater** than single vaccinations without adjuvant.



3. Induction of T-cell responses: antigen-specific induction of CD4+ T-cell responses A strong bias toward this Th1 phenotype observed

Inactivated vaccine

SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine

Wuhan Institute of
Biological products

Phase I and II: [ChiCTR2000031809](#)

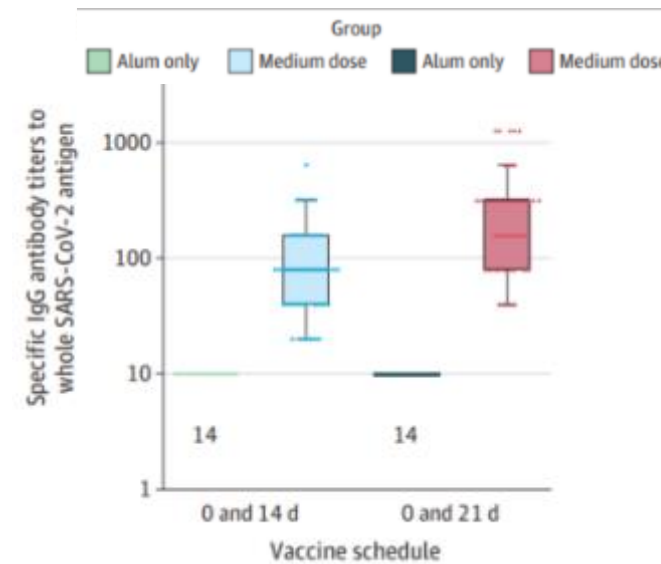
Study Design	Phase I: randomised controlled dose-finding trial Phase II: randomised controlled trial
Age range	18 – 59
Nb of participants	Phase I: 96 Phase II: 224
Nb of doses/route	Phase I: 3 (days 0/28/56) – IM Phase II: 2 (days 0/14 or 0/21) -IM
Vaccine groups	Phase I : 12.5 µg (n = 24) 5 µg (n = 24) 10 µg (n = 24) Control group: Placebo of aluminum hydroxide (n = 24) Phase II: 5 µg at d0/14 or d0/21 (n = 84 each group) Control group: Placebo of aluminum hydroxide, d0/14 (n = 28) or d0/21 (n = 28)
SAE	None
Local AE	Phase I: Injection site pain (4–25% combining across doses) Phase II: None at ≥25% prevalence
Systemic AE	Phase I and Phase II: None at ≥25% prevalence

IMMUNOGENICITY1/2 (*Phase II data*)

1. Specific IgG antibody responses to whole SARS-CoV-2 antigen

Assay: ELISA

Units: Geometric mean titre (95% CI)



The GMTs of specific IgGs antibody was 74 (95% CI, 56-97) in the group vaccinated on d0 and d14 and 157 (95% CI, 157-296) in the group vaccinated on d0 and d21. Seroconversion was noted in all participants receiving injections on d0 and d21

Inactivated vaccine

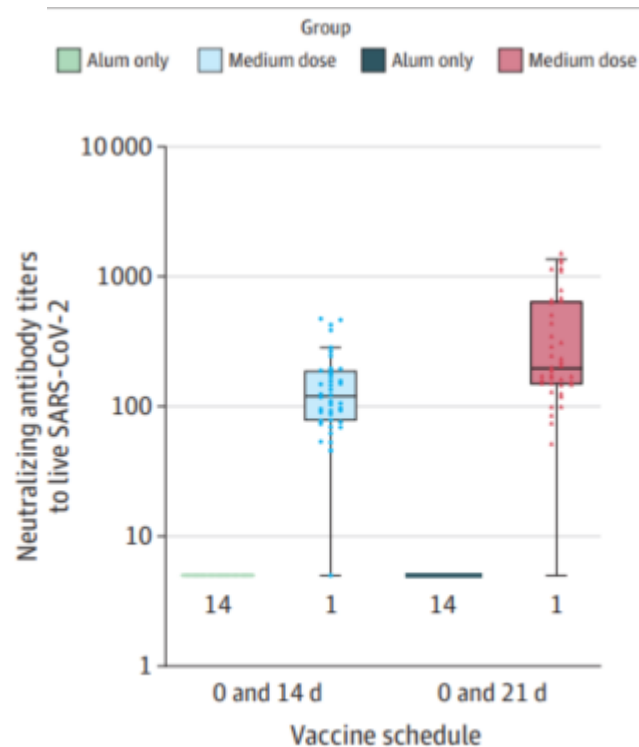
SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine

IMMUNOGENICITY 2/2 (*Phase II data*)

2. Neutralizing antibodies to live SARS-CoV-2

Assay: Plaque-reduction neutralisation test (50% inhibitory dilution, Vero E6 cells)

Units: Geometric mean titre, ID50 (95% CI)



The geometric mean titer (GMT) of neutralizing antibody was 121 (95% CI, 95-154) in the group vaccinated on d0 and 14 and 247 (95% CI, 176-345) in other group. Seroconversion was noted in 97.6% of the vaccinated patients (none in the alum-only group)

Vaccine Summary results

Vaccine & Developer	Phase III regimen	Specific IgG titers (14 - 28 days after 2nd dose) <i>as per Phase I or II published results</i>	NAb titers (14 - 28 days after 2nd dose) <i>as per Phase I or II published results</i>
BNT162b2 BioNTech – Pfizer – Fosun Pharma	2 doses (d1 and d22) 30µg/dose	Non published yet-preprint	
mRNA-1273 Moderna – NIAID	2 doses (d1 and d29) 100µg/dose	782 719 GMT <i>Test: ELISA anti S IgG</i>	654.3 GMT <i>Test: PRNT₈₀</i>
Ad5-nCoV CanSino Biologicals Inc –Beijing Institute of Biotechnology	1 dose 5x10 ¹⁰ vp	571.0 GMT <i>Test: ELISA anti RBD IgG</i>	18.3 GMT <i>Test: WT virus neutralization</i>
SputnikV Gamaleya Research Institute	d1 0,5 mL rAd26 d21 0,5 mL rAd5	14 703 GMT <i>Test: ELISA anti RBD IgG</i>	49.25 GMT <i>Test: MNA₅₀</i>
Ad26COVS1 Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center	1 dose 1x10 ¹¹ vp	Non published yet-preprint	
ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 University of Oxford – AstraZeneca	2 doses (d1 and d29) 5x10 ¹⁰ vp	639 EU <i>Test: ELISA anti S IgG</i>	136 MT <i>Test: MNA₈₀</i>
NVX COV2373 Novavax	2 doses (d0 and d28) 25µg+Matrix M/ dose	47 521 GMEU <i>Test: ELISA anti S IgG</i>	3305 GMT <i>Test: MNA₉₉</i>
CoronaVac Sinovac – Institut Butantan	2 doses (d1 and d14)	Non published yet-preprint	
BBIBP-CorV Beijing Inst. Biological Products –Sinopharm	2 doses (d0 and d21)	Non published yet-preprint	
SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine Wuhan Inst. Biological products– Sinopharm	2 doses (d0 and d21)	215 GMT <i>Test: ELISA anti S IgG</i>	247 GMT <i>Test: PRNT₅₀</i>

NOTE:
COMPARISONS SHOULD NOT BE MADE AS ASSAYS ARE NOT STANDARDIZED

THERAPEUTIC (October 12th 2020)

1. What drug showed clinical efficacy?

- Dexamethasone is the first drug to show life-saving efficacy in patients infected with COVID-19

2. What drugs did not show proven benefits?

- No proven benefits have been reported with (hydroxy)chloroquine nor lopinavir/ritonavir treatment

3. What are the types of vaccines in clinical evaluation

- 40 candidates vaccines are in an ongoing clinical evaluation
- Published Phase I/II data suggests that vaccine candidates on trial are immunogenic and mostly well tolerated in young adults
- Induced titers of NAb are variable depending on the vaccine candidate
- No data on ADE risk on humans nor virus clearance in upper respiratory tract after human vaccination has been published yet
- 10 vaccines are already in Phase III for efficacy evaluation



Contacts

Pr F-Xavier Lescure
xavier.lescure@aphp.fr

Dr Eric D'Ortenzio
eric.dortenzio@inserm.fr