



COVID-19 – Evidence digest 22 March 2021

Introduction

This digest contains links to pages on websites which collate or synthesize evidence relating to the COVID-19 pandemic. This is a quick guide, and therefore not exhaustive, but it will be updated regularly as required.

Disclaimer: Inclusion below does not endorse content, but allows the user access to as much evidence on COVID-19 as possible. Please follow the links for the latest advice from the [UK](#) & [Welsh](#) Governments, as well as [Public Health Wales](#), [WHSSC](#) (Welsh Health Specialised Service Committee) & [MHRA](#) (Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency).

		Update frequency
Wales-specific information		
1.	Velindre University NHS Trust – COVID-19 Resources: Maintained by the Trust Library, searches are being conducted of key databases & specific journals, as well as checking for society guidelines https://velindre.nhs.wales/velindre-library/library-covid-19-resources/	Weekly
2.	NHS Wales eLibrary - Coronavirus COVID-19 Subject Guide for NHS Wales Health and Care Professionals Many of the NHS Wales e-Library for Health e-resources have updated their systems to include information on coronavirus, COVID-19. This page contains links to information from publishers and suppliers, NHS Wales, Welsh Government and Royal Colleges and Societies to support health and care professionals in NHS Wales. https://elh.nhs.wales/news1/latest-news/coronavirus-covid-19-subject-guide-for-nhs-wales-health-and-care-professionals/	Regularly (as and when new resources released)
3.	Health and Care Research Wales - COVID-19 updates Health and Care Research Wales is leading, enabling and delivering research into COVID-19 as part of UK-wide initiatives. https://healthandcareresearchwales.org/covid-19-updates	Not stated
4.	North Wales Social Care and Well-being Services Improvement Collaborative - Latest information on Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) The Resources spreadsheet contains useful sources of information and guidance. https://www.northwalescollaborative.wales/latest-information-on-novel-coronavirus-covid-19/	Last update 11 th March 2021
5.	Public Health Wales Observatory In support of the Health Protection team, the Evidence Service has developed a series of rapid summaries. English: http://www.publichealthwalesobservatory.wales.nhs.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-publications Welsh: http://www.arsyllfaiechydscyhoedduscymru.wales.nhs.uk/tystiolaeth-gryno-covid Rapid evidence summaries: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Models of mass vaccination in non-healthcare settings	Last update 15 th December 2020

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recruiting and training a skilled workforce to deliver mass vaccination - Communication to address concerns and encourage vaccine uptake - Managing expectations among groups not prioritised for early vaccination - Accessibility of mass vaccination - Digital systems to manage appointments and record vaccine administration in non-healthcare settings - Safe management of post vaccination recovery in non-health care settings <p>Other summaries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting the mental wellbeing of healthcare staff in times of crisis/pressure - Supporting wellbeing of older people when shielding/isolating - COVID-19 risk factors 	
Evidence Reviews		
6.	<p>Analytical Collaboration for COVID-19 Five organisations collaborated (March – December 2020) to provide analytical support to the health and care system to help in the fight against COVID-19: the Health Foundation; King’s Fund; Nuffield Trust; and two specialist NHS analytical teams (Imperial College Health Partners and the Strategy Unit). These five organisations coordinated to provided analysis and expertise to support the NHS on COVID-19. https://www.strategyunitwm.nhs.uk/covid19-and-coronavirus</p>	Last alert 2 nd October 2020
7.	<p>CEBM (The Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine) – Oxford COVID-19 Evidence Service The CEBM has committed its skills and expertise in evidence synthesis and dissemination to the effort against the current COVID-19 pandemic. This page links to rapid reviews of primary care questions relating to the coronavirus pandemic. https://www.cebm.net/oxford-covid-19-evidence-service/</p>	Regularly (last update 16 th March 2021)
8.	<p>Cochrane Library Overview page linking to Cochrane Reviews and related content from the Cochrane Library pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic https://www.cochranelibrary.com/covid-19</p> <p>Special Collections 8 publications to date, the following have been updated recently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • **Updated** Coronavirus (COVID-19): infection control and prevention measures https://www.cochranelibrary.com/collections/doi/SC000040/full • **Updated** Coronavirus (COVID-19): evidence relevant to critical care https://www.cochranelibrary.com/collections/doi/SC000039/full <p>Cochrane reviews 27 publications to date, the following has been recently published:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • **NEW** COVID-19 and its cardiovascular effects: a systematic review of prevalence studies https://www.cochranelibrary.com/cdsr/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD013879/full 	Regularly (last update 15 th March 2021)
9.	<p>GOARN – COVID-19 Knowledge Hub Curated by GOARN Partners including UN agencies, International and national NGOs, academic institutions and consortiums, the GOARN COVID-19 Information is a public platform for access to the best resources available to support your engagement in responding to this pandemic. https://extranet.who.int/goarn/COVID19Hub</p> <p>Emerging COVID-19 evidence Links to Curated COVID-19 publications & Rapid Evidence Reviews https://extranet.who.int/goarn/partner-resources/395</p>	Not stated

10.	<p>Healthcare Improvement Scotland – COVID-19: Evidence for Scotland</p> <p>Healthcare Improvement Scotland are identifying reliable resources for NHS Scotland in the COVID-19 pandemic. Includes a weekly update on the latest situation regarding COVID-19 and links to SIGN & Scottish Government Clinical Guidance Cell guidelines as well as rapid evidence reviews</p> <p>http://www.healthcareimprovementscotland.org/our_work/coronavirus_covid-19/evidence_for_scotland.aspx</p>	Weekly
11.	<p>McMaster University – COVID-19 Rapid Evidence Reviews</p> <p>COVID-END - COVID-19 Evidence Network to support Decision-making</p> <p>The COVID-19 Evidence Network to support Decision-making (COVID-END) has come together to help those already supporting decision-making to find and use the best evidence and to help reduce duplication in and better coordinate the evidence syntheses, technology assessment and guidelines being produced.</p> <p>https://www.mcmasterforum.org/networks/covid-end</p> <p>National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools</p> <p>National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools has collected research questions for rapid evidence reviews currently in development</p> <p>https://www.nccmt.ca/knowledge-repositories/covid-19-evidence-reviews</p>	Last update: Not stated Not stated
12.	<p>MaHTAS (Health Technology Assessment Section, Ministry of Health Malaysia) – COVID-19 Rapid Evidence Updates</p> <p>There are four sections: screening & diagnosis; public health intervention; clinical management; and disinfection & sterilisation.</p> <p>https://www.moh.gov.my/index.php/pages/view/2348</p>	Last update 3 rd July 2020
13.	<p>Ministry of Health, Singapore – Clinical Evidence Summaries</p> <p>Provides links to rapid evidence reviews related to COVID-19.</p> <p>https://www.moh.gov.sg/covid-19/clinical-evidence-summaries</p>	Last update 26 th August 2020
14.	<p>MRC Centre for Global Infectious Disease Analysis at Imperial College London – COVID-19</p> <p>Provides links to all output from the Imperial College COVID-19 Response Team, including publicly published online reports, planning tools, scientific resources, publications and video updates.</p> <p>https://www.imperial.ac.uk/mrc-global-infectious-disease-analysis/covid-19/</p>	Last update 31 st December 2020
15.	<p>National University of Singapore Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health – Research on COVID-19</p> <p>The Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health is collating the emerging evidence base.</p> <p>https://sph.nus.edu.sg/covid-19/research/</p>	Last update March 2021
16.	<p>NICE – Coronavirus (COVID-19)</p> <p>NICE are producing a variety of different publications on COVID-19 and its effect on specific patient populations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid guidelines – 24 to date under the following headings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Managing symptoms and complications ○ Managing conditions that increase risk ○ Providing services during the pandemic • Rapid evidence summaries – 2 currently published • Medtech Innovation briefings – 6 to date <p>https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/conditions-and-diseases/respiratory-conditions/covid19/products?Status=Published</p>	Regularly
17.	<p>PCORI (Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute) – COVID-19 Health Care Horizon Scanning System</p> <p>PCORI funds studies that can help patients and those who care for them make better-informed healthcare choices.</p> <p>https://www.pcori.org/search/site?keyword=covid&f%5B0%5D=search_api_combined_1%3APCORI%20Health%20Care%20Horizon%20Scanning%20System</p>	Not stated

18.	<p>Usher Institute – UNCOVER (Usher Network for COVID-19 Evidence Reviews) A network of population health researchers and information specialists who are committed to responding quickly to requests from policymakers for evidence reviews. The completed rapid reviews are published on the website. https://www.ed.ac.uk/usher/uncover</p>	Last update 1 st February 2021
Searchable Evidence 'Hubs'/Databases		
19.	<p>Cochrane COVID-19 Study Register The aim of the register is to support rapid evidence synthesis by all systematic review producers. The register helps systematic reviewers prioritize topics, identify available evidence, and produce urgently needed reviews for front-line health professionals, public health policymakers, and research teams developing new therapeutic, diagnostic, and preventive interventions for COVID-19. https://covid-19.cochrane.org/</p>	Daily
20.	<p>COVID Evidence Database COVID-evidence is a continuously updated database of the worldwide available evidence on interventions for COVID-19. It provides information about worldwide planned, ongoing, and completed trials on any intervention to treat or prevent SARS-CoV-2-infections. Combines automatic search strategies with expert manual extraction of key trial characteristics performed in duplicate. https://covid-evidence.org/</p>	Last update 15 th March 2021
21.	<p>COVID-NMA – Living mapping and living systematic review of Covid-19 studies A living mapping of ongoing research, followed by a living network meta-analysis (NMA) of study results as soon as they are available. https://covid-nma.com/</p>	Last update 1 st February 2021
22.	<p>COVID-19 Data Portal The COVID-19 Data Portal brings together relevant datasets for sharing and analysis in an effort to accelerate coronavirus research. It enables researchers to upload, access and analyse COVID-19 related reference data and specialist datasets as part of the wider European COVID-19 Data Platform. https://www.covid19dataportal.org/</p>	Not stated
23.	<p>COVID-19 Open Research Dataset (CORD-19) The Semantic Scholar team at the Allen Institute for AI has partnered with leading research groups to provide CORD-19, a free resource of more than 59,000 scholarly articles about the novel coronavirus for use by the global research community. https://pages.semanticscholar.org/coronavirus-research</p> <p>The dataset is available in a public review on the Rayyan platform: https://rayyan.qcri.org/reviews/125430</p>	Weekly
24.	<p>EPPI-Centre - Living map of the evidence of studies on COVID-19 identified in MEDLINE and EMBASE, that groups the evidence into broad themes A 'map' which allows you to access the evidence broken down into broad themes. You can access the bibliographic records http://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/Projects/DepartmentofHealthandSocialCare/Publishedreviews/COVID-19Livingssystematicmapofthevidence/tabid/3765/Default.aspx</p>	50 editions to date; last edition 1 st March 2021
25.	<p>European Commission – COVID-19 In Vitro Diagnostic Devices and Test Methods Database The objective of the JRC COVID-19 In Vitro Diagnostic Devices and Test Methods Database is to collect in a single place all publicly available information on performance of CE-marked in vitro diagnostic medical devices (IVDs) as well as in-house laboratory-developed devices, kits and related test methods for coronavirus SARS-CoV-2. https://covid-19-diagnostics.jrc.ec.europa.eu/</p>	Not stated

26.	<p>Evidence Aid – Coronavirus (COVID-19): Evidence Collection</p> <p>Evidence Aid is preparing summaries of relevant research, which are available below in English with links to translations in other languages. This collection includes summaries of systematic reviews that might be relevant to the direct impact of COVID-19 on health and other outcomes, the impact of the COVID-19 response on other conditions, and issues to consider for the recovery period after COVID-19.</p> <p>https://www.evidenceaid.org/coronavirus-covid-19-evidence-collection/</p>	Last update 18 th March 2021
27.	<p>HESG (Health Economists’ Study Group) – COVID-19 Study Database</p> <p>HESG has collated a database of studies relating to COVID-19.</p> <p>https://hesg.org.uk/covid-19-study-database/</p>	Not stated
28.	<p>LIVIVO – COVID-19 collection</p> <p>Contains entries about COVID-19/SARS-CoV-2 from various scientific sources as well as current relevant preprints from bioRxiv and medRxiv.</p> <p>https://www.livivo.de/covid19</p>	Not stated
29.	<p>Jonanna Briggs Institute – COVID-19 Special Collection</p> <p>This provides health professionals and health organisations with free access to premier evidence-based point of care resources to inform and guide healthcare decision making with a focus on infection prevention and control measures, and mental health and well-being.</p> <p>https://joannabriggs.org/covid-19</p>	Not stated
30.	<p>LitCovid</p> <p>LitCovid is a curated literature hub for tracking up-to-date scientific information about the 2019 novel Coronavirus. It provides a central access to 2170 (and growing) relevant articles in PubMed. The articles are further categorized by different research topics and geographic locations for improved access.</p> <p>https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/research/coronavirus/</p>	Daily
31.	<p>L·OVE – COVID-19</p> <p>In order to respond to the COVID-19 emergency, the L·OVE platform has been adapted to include not only the existing systematic reviews but also other types of evidence synthesis (e.g. guidelines) and primary studies, published or ongoing, of any design.</p> <p>https://app.iloveevidence.com/loves/5e6fdb9669c00e4ac072701d</p>	Daily
32.	<p>McMaster University HiRU (Health Information Research Unit) – COVID-19 Evidence Alerts</p> <p>This service alerts users to current best evidence for clinical care of people with threatened, suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infection. Reports are critically appraised for scientific merit, and those with acceptable scientific merit are appraised for relevance and importance by frontline clinicians.</p> <p>https://plus.mcmaster.ca/COVID-19/</p>	Last update 22 nd March 2021
33.	<p>metaEvidence – COVID-19</p> <p>Live meta-analysis and evidence synthesis of potential therapies for COVID19</p> <p>http://metaevidence.org/COVID19.aspx</p>	Not stated
34.	<p>NIHR (National Institute for Health Research) Innovation Observatory – COVID-19 Updates</p> <p>This resource provides dashboards for Therapeutics, Diagnostics & Soft Intelligence in clinical development for COVID-19.</p> <p>http://www.io.nihr.ac.uk/covid-19-updates/</p> <p>Learning for involvement – COVID-19 resources</p> <p>COVID-19-specific resources to help you involve people in, or get involved in, research during the COVID-19 pandemic</p> <p>https://learningforinvolvement.org.uk/find-resource/?term=&date=DESC&region=undefined&resource_type=null&topic=covid-19#find-opportunity</p>	Regularly Last update 18 th February 2021

35.	<p>NIPH (Norwegian Institute of Public Health) – Live map of COVID-19 evidence</p> <p>A growing number of studies and reports are being published on COVID-19 and the pandemic. This project will help decision makers and researchers navigate the research. The main map gives an overview of all publications categorized according to publication type, population of interest and topic. There are more detailed maps on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Etiology • Diagnosis • Infection prevention and control • Interventions to treat the infected patient • Prognosis • Experiences and perception, social, political, economic aspects <p>https://www.fhi.no/en/qk/systematic-reviews-hta/map/</p>	Last update 10 th February 2021
36.	<p>VA Evidence Synthesis Program (ESP) – COVID-19 Evidence Reviews</p> <p>Catalogue of COVID-19 evidence reviews capturing the work of evidence synthesis groups in the US and around the world to maximise collective contributions to patients, frontline clinicians, researchers, and policymakers during the COVID-19 pandemic and avoid duplicating efforts.</p> <p>http://covid19reviews.org/</p>	Last update 19 th March 2021
37.	<p>WebMD – COVID-19</p> <p>A collection of breaking research on COVID-19.</p> <p>https://qxmd.com/r/shared-collection/19211</p>	Not stated
38.	<p>WHO Global research on coronavirus disease (COVID-19) database</p> <p>Access to the latest scientific findings and knowledge on coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and compiled in a database. The database can be downloaded into EndNote, should that be required.</p> <p>https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/global-research-on-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov</p>	Daily
General Resources		
39.	<p>American Medical Library Association – COVID-19 Resources for Medical Librarians & Other Health Information Professionals</p> <p>This curated list has been created from crowd-sourced suggestions from MLA members and other health information professionals on the front lines of providing information during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list, as many librarians have already created excellent resource guides for their institutions and patients.</p> <p>https://www.mlanet.org/p/cm/ld/fid=1712</p>	Last update 8 th May 2020 [no longer being updated]
40.	<p>British Medical Journal BMJ Coronavirus (COVID-19) Hub</p> <p>This page collects all BMJ coverage of the coronavirus outbreak from across the BMJ's journals and learning resources. All articles and resources are freely available.</p> <p>https://www.bmj.com/coronavirus</p> <p>BMJ Best Practice Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) https://bestpractice.bmj.com/topics/en-gb/3000168</p>	Regularly (last update 21 st March 2021)
41.	<p>C19 Economics</p> <p>C19economics.org is a platform to enable, improve and share health economics evidence to inform COVID-related decision making and policies globally, with a focus on low and middle income countries (LMICs).</p> <p>https://c19economics.org/</p>	Not stated
42.	<p>**NEW** CADTH COVID-19 Grey Literature Resources</p> <p>A Curated List of Evidence-Based Sources for Health Professionals, Librarians, and Researchers</p> <p>https://cadth.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=de8f26867f7e52822b2a301bf&id=1b4b4c56c2&e=cc9b0b513a</p>	Published 20 th October 2020

43.	<p>CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) – COVID-19 Research Articles Downloadable Database</p> <p>The Stephen B. Thacker CDC Library is collecting COVID-19 (2019 Novel Coronavirus) research articles and compiling them into an easily accessible and downloadable database to help researchers find the latest COVID-19 research. https://www.cdc.gov/library/researchguides/2019novelcoronavirus/researcharticles.html</p>	Last update 9 th October 2020
44.	<p>CONDOR (COVID-19 National DiagnOstic Research and Evaluation Platform</p> <p>The CONDOR platform evaluates new COVID-19 diagnostics in the settings they will be used, such as in GP surgeries, care homes or hospitals, as well as their performance in laboratory settings. https://www.condor-platform.org/</p>	Not stated
45.	<p>ECRI</p> <p>ECRI has developed this resource centre to help hospitals, ambulatory care, and aging care facilities protect healthcare workers, residents, and patients. https://www.ecri.org/coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak-preparedness-center</p>	Last update 19 th March 2021
46.	<p>EPPI-Centre – Resources relating to COVID-19</p> <p>The list of resources was put together during the planning stage of the COVID-19: a living systematic map of the evidence and has been updated as new resources have emerged. http://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/Projects/DepartmentofHealthandSocialCare/Publishedreviews/COVID-19LivingSystematicmapoftheevidence/COVID-19Resources/tabid/3767/Default.aspx</p>	Last update 15 th March 2021
47.	<p>European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control</p> <p>The COVID-19 pandemic is rapidly evolving, and outbreak investigations are ongoing. ECDC is closely monitoring this outbreak, providing risk assessments, public health guidance, and advice on response activities to EU Member States and the EU Commission. https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/covid-19-pandemic</p>	Last update 18 th March 2021
48.	<p>European Patients Forum – COVID-19 Resource Point</p> <p>European Patients Forum will share credible figures, research articles and reports on COVID-19 and its effects on the patient and medical community here and in a weekly e-blast to our subscribers. https://www.eu-patient.eu/COVID-19/covid-resource-point/</p>	Weekly
49.	<p>**NEW** FIND – COVID-19 Test Directory & Pipeline</p> <p>FIND have compiled a fully searchable directory that includes performance data (sensitivity and specificity) for antigen rapid diagnostic tests (Ag RDTs) and molecular point-of-care tests. https://www.finddx.org/covid-19/</p>	Not stated
50.	<p>ISPM (Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine), University of Bern – Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Resources</p> <p>The Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine at the University of Bern provides information and resources about the ongoing COVID-19 epidemic for scientists, public health experts, journalists and the public. https://ispmbern.github.io/covid-19/</p> <p>SARS-CoV-2 references https://zika.ispm.unibe.ch/assets/data/pub/ncov/</p>	Last update 22 nd March 2021
51.	<p>ISQua (International Society For Quality In Health Care) – COVID-19 Information and Resources</p> <p>Collated resources from around the world in order to help provide the most up to date information to the healthcare community. Contains links to webinars, articles, research papers, recordings, podcasts, and other research portals. https://www.isqua.org/covid-19-research-page.html</p>	Regularly
52.	<p>NHS CHAIN (Contact, Help, Advice and Information Network) – Covid-19</p> <p>Potentially useful online resources suggested by CHAIN members https://www.chain-network.org.uk/resources.html</p>	Last update 1 st March 2021

53.	Public Health England – Finding the evidence: Coronavirus PHE Knowledge and Library Services team (KLS) has produced this page to help those, working on the current coronavirus outbreak, to identify and access emerging evidence as it is published. https://phelibrary.koha-ptfs.co.uk/coronavirusinformation/	Not stated
54.	SCIE (Social Care Institute for Excellence) – Coronavirus (COVID-19) advice for social care Advice for councils and care providers as the government works to delay the spread of COVID-19 https://www.scie.org.uk/care-providers/coronavirus-covid-19	Last update December 2020

Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Organisations

This section lists other HTA organisations, as well as international HTA collaborations, and their response to COVID-19.

UK & Ireland	
AWTTC – All Wales Therapeutics & Toxicology Centre https://www.awttc.org/coronavirus-covid-19-therapeutic-advice	
HIQA – Health Information & Quality Authority https://www.hiqa.ie/reports-and-publications/all-publications?field_pub_published_year_target_id=All&keyspub=covid&=Apply	
HIS – Healthcare Improvement Scotland http://www.healthcareimprovementscotland.org/our_work/coronavirus_covid-19.aspx	
NICE – National Institute for Health and Care Excellence https://www.nice.org.uk/covid-19	
NIHR – National Institute for Health Research https://www.nihr.ac.uk/covid-19/	
International	
CADTH – Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health https://covid.cadth.ca/	
G-BA (Gemeinsamer Bundesausschuss) – Befristete Sonderregelungen im Zusammenhang mit der Coronavirus-Pandemie [in German] https://www.g-ba.de/service/sonderregelungen-corona/	
IECS (Institute for Clinical Effectiveness and Health Policy), Argentina - COVID-19. Documentos de Evaluación de Tecnologías Sanitarias [in Spanish] https://www.iecs.org.ar/covid/covid-ets/	
INESSS (Institut national d'excellence en santé et en services sociaux), Canada [in French] https://www.inesss.qc.ca/covid-19.html	
International Collaboration	
EUnetHTA – European Network for Health Technology Assessment https://eunethta.eu/services/covid-19/	
HTAi – Health Technology Assessment International https://htai.org/how-can-we-help-hta-support-for-covid-19/	
INAHTA – International Network of Agencies for Health Technology Assessment http://www.inahta.org/covid-19-inahta-response/	