# ERATURE REVIEW SARS-CoV 2 Epidemiology





• As of 6/27/2020, there have been a total of 10,081,522 cases reported (Cases/1,000~1.29 based on a population of 7.8 billion; ↑ from **0.80** on 06/01), 5,458,367 patients recovered, and 501,298 fatalities (**4.97% fatality rate**; ↓ from **6.0%** on 06/01) from COVID-19.

#### **UNITED STATES**

• As of 6/27/2020, there have been a total of 2,459,472 reported (Cases/1,000~7.49, based on a population of 328.2 million, ↑ from 5.47 on 06/01), 1,081,437 patients recovered, and 124,976 fatalities (5.08% fatality rate, ↓ from 5.85% on 06/01) from COVID-19. A total of 32,297,688 tests have been performed.

#### **TEXAS**

• As of 6/27/2020, there have been a total of 143,371 cases reported (Cases/1,000~4.94, based on a population of 29 million ↑ from 2.24 on 06/01), 78,248 patients recovered and 2,366 fatalities (**1.65% fatality rate**, ↓ from **2.6%** on 06/01) from COVID-19. There is an estimate of 62,757 active cases with a total of 1,959,617 tests performed.

#### **SAN ANTONIO**

• Bexar County: As of 6/27/2020, there have been a total of 8,857 cases reported (Cases/1,000~4.43, based on a population of 2 million, ↑ from 1.35 on 06/01), 3,099 patients recovered and 105 fatalities (1.18% fatality rate, ↓ from 2.59% on 06/01) from COVID-19. There is an estimate of 5,249 active cases with a total of 68,876 tests performed.



## MEDICALLY AT-RISK POPULATIONS

#### **ELDERLY POPULATION**

- 8 out of 10 deaths reported in the US have been in adults 65 years or older.
- Male sex, age ≥ 60 years, delay in diagnosis and severe pneumonia have been associated with an increased CFR (Case Fatality Rate).
- In China, the CFR was 3.6, 1.3 and 0.4 for those greater than or equal to 80, 70-79 and 60-69 years of age, respectively, versus a CFR of 0.4 in those aged 30-59 years old.
- Higher proportion of severe to critical cases have been observed in the elderly population with dyspnea, lymphocytopenia, comorbidities including cardiovascular disease and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and acute respiratory distress syndrome being predictive of poor outcome..
- Recommendation: The general public should continue to practice preventive measures (e.g., physical distancing, respiratory hygiene, and wearing face coverings in public settings) to protect older adults and persons with underlying medical conditions. People aged ≥60 years should wear medical masks for protection in settings where physical distancing cannot be achieved.

#### MALE POPULATION

- A greater incidence of disease and mortality as well as a longer clinical course for COVID-19 infection in the male versus female population has been documented.
- The strongest support for the COVID-19 discrepancy in males is linked to the pathophysiology of the virus. Angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 (ACE2) is a functional receptor for coronaviruses and is highly expressed in the heart, lungs, kidneys and testis. Levels are generally higher in males versus females.
- Comorbidities may also play a factor in the COVID-19 discrepancy.
- Recommendation: The sex and gender disparities observed in COVID-19 vulnerability emphasize the need to better understand the impact of sex and gender on incidence and case fatality of the disease and to tailor treatment according to sex and gender. Clinical suspicion, accompanied by a relevant epidemiological history, should be followed by early imaging and a virological assay.

### PREGNANT POPULATION

- To date, there is no evidence of vertical transmission of COVID-19 barring 1 case study in Peru.
- In terms of clinical outcomes, data is still limited and conflicting. Most studies agree that clinical manifestations and severity are similar between pregnant and non-pregnant adults, however, one systematic review found that COVID-19 infection was associated with a relatively higher rate of preeclampsia and caesarian.
- Several studies found a higher rate of preterm birth though other poor perinatal outcomes are less supported.
- Recommendation: Systematic screening of any suspected 2019-nCoV infection during pregnancy and extensive intensive follow-up for confirmed mothers and their fetuses is recommended.

#### PEDIATRIC POPULATION

- Children make up only 1-5% of confirmed cases so far, though this may be due to under-testing of asymptomatic or mild cases.
- While most cases in children are mild, severe illness requiring hospitalization and mortality do occur. Children with pre-existing comorbidities and infants may be at higher risk for severe illness.
- Children of Hispanic, Sub-Saharan African or Caribbean descent may be at higher risk for developing Kawasaki-like Disease secondary to infection, also called PIMS-TS or MIS-C.
- Male children may be more susceptible to COVID-19.
- Children may transmit COVID-19 less readily than adults, but the data for this is limited.
- · Recommendation: Clinicians should monitor for progression of illness in children, especially in infants, children with pre-existing conditions, and children of Hispanic, African or Caribbean descent. In addition, preventive measures should be continued to avoid transmission from mild or asymptomatic children.

#### **BLACK POPULATION**

- In the United States, the infection rate is more than 3-fold higher and the death rate is 6-fold higher in predominantly Black counties than in predominantly white counties. In California, the odds of hospitalization is 2.7x higher when compared to non-hispanic whites.
- Some reports suggest the COVID-19 discrepancy is due to a higher rate of comorbidities in the Black population, but recent studies found that persisting social inequities, such as poverty, racial discrimination, spatial exclusion and employment types / opportunities, also play a role.
- Within one health system in Louisiana, blacks experienced higher rates of hospitalization, were more likely to require a ventilator, but did not have a greater in-hospital mortality than whites. This may be attributed to barriers in accessing timely care.
- Other systematic and structural factors such as Implicit bias from providers also needs to be further investigated, with special consideration give to Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) orders in their patients.
- Recommendation: Documenting racial/ethnic variations in testing and treatment is essential. Public health officials must prioritize prevention activities in communities and racial/ethnic groups most affected by COVID-19, including Black populations. Prioritizing access to early testing and equitably applied interventions may prevent the risk of COVID-19 transmission in marginalized populations.

#### LatinX POPULATION

- Of the 45% of cases where demographic data were available, 33% occurred in Hispanic or LatinX patients.
- In Chicago, Baltimore and parts of California, Oregon, Washington and Iowa, the LatinX population has seen a higher infection rate.
- In NYC, a higher mortality rate is present (74.3/100,00 vs 45.2 in the white population).
- Possible causes include LatinX workers having less flexibility to work remotely, less access to healthcare and language barriers.
- Recommendation: Though the amount of racial and ethnic data on the epidemiology of COVID-19 has increased, more data is needed to fully characterize how COVID-19 affects LatinX populations and to understand the impact of both sex and race on hospitalization rates in this population.

#### LGBTQ+ POPULATION

- The LGBQT+ Population may be more at risk for COVID-19 due to increased tobacco rates usage (50% greater than general population), higher rates of HIV and cancer, and health disparities (both pre-existing and current).
- A large survey (n=1051) of men who have sex with men (MSM) found that 25.4% of participants reported decreased access to STI testing or treatment.
- The closing of K-12 schools and higher education institutions may limit young LGBTQ+ individuals access to mental health care services. LGBTQ+ individuals are more susceptible to mental health illnesses and may face negative health outcomes due to decreased access to care
- Recommendation: Telehealth and a mailed specimen self-collection services should be developed to ensure continued access to mental health
  care (including to address the mental health impacts of social distancing) and HIV/STI prevention and treatment. To avoid exacerbating
  health disparities, large-scale seroprevalence studies must be deployed to better understand the potential co-morbidity of HIV and SARS-CoV2 among MSM.