National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce

Supporting Australia’s healthcare professionals with continually updated, evidence-based clinical guidelines

The Taskforce brings together the peak health professional bodies across Australia whose members are providing clinical care to people with COVID-19.

We are undertaking continuous evidence surveillance to identify and rapidly synthesise emerging research in order to provide national, evidence-based guidelines for the clinical care of people with COVID-19.

The guidelines address questions that are specific to managing COVID-19 and cover the full disease course across mild, moderate, severe and critical illness.

These are ‘living’ guidelines, updated with new research in near real-time in order to give reliable, up-to-the minute advice to clinicians providing frontline care in this unprecedented global health crisis.

Australia is a world-leader in the development of living guidelines through the work of the Australian Living Evidence Consortium and in partnership with Cochrane, the world's most trusted provider of health evidence.

This considerable expertise has now been deployed to ensure every Australian clinician has access to a single source of trustworthy advice about critical aspects of COVID-19 care.

- Living Guidelines. High-priority, evidence-based clinical guidelines updated weekly with the latest research.
- Decision Flowcharts. Flowcharts incorporating living guideline recommendations and guidance issued or endorsed by Taskforce members.
- Evidence Under Review.

Library Service Status: space closure, most services continue

Library staff are committed to continuing to provide as many services as possible, with as few disruptions to our clients as possible.

Recent changes:

- The Library space is no longer available to use.
- Most services continue as usual, with some minor changes.
- No more hard-copy loans until further notice.

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Nature reviews roundup: The best books on past pandemics to read now

From the Black Death to the 1918 influenza pandemic, COVID-19 is not humanity’s first brush with outbreaks.

Discover what we can learn from history with Nature’s pick of the best histories and analyses of past pandemics.

- Historian Frank Snowden argues that infectious diseases have shaped social evolution no less powerfully than have wars, revolutions and economic crises. (from 2019)
- The 1918 influenza pandemic probably infected 500 million people — one-third of the world’s population at the time. There was a wide-ranging failure of medicine and governments — which is one reason why its history has been long neglected. (from 2017)
- The story of the race to stop a plague epidemic in San Francisco that broke out in 1900 is a rich history of epidemiology, political wrangling and scientific denialism. (from 2019)
- An analysis of the fraught campaign to contain the 2013–16 Ebola crisis reveals the common threads of dysfunction that run through responses to epidemics. (from 2018)
- Rediscover pioneering epidemiologist and anaesthesiologist John Snow and his meticulous mapping of the cholera epidemic in London. (from 2013)

DynaMed trial extended to end of June

DynaMed is a clinician-focused tool designed to facilitate efficient and evidence-based patient care, comparable to UpToDate. Rigorous and daily review of medical literature ensures that timely and objective analysis, synthesis and guidance is at your fingertips.

Read more about this resource, get access, and provide feedback.

COVID-19 is the subject of the latest DynaMed EBM Focus newsletter, addressing 10 common questions.

1. Should patients with COVID-19 continue their ACE inhibitors or ARB medications?
2. Once you’ve had COVID-19, can you get it again?
3. Does a negative test rule out infection with SARS-CoV-2?
4. How do cloth masks compare to surgical masks at preventing transmission of SARS-CoV-2?
5. In the US, does sitting in a waiting room near a person with symptomatic COVID-19 put one at “high risk” of exposure?
6. Does coronavirus affect children?
7. Should breastfeeding mothers not breastfeed if they have symptoms of coronavirus or test positive for disease?
8. How long can coronavirus remain viable in the air and on surfaces?
9. Is ibuprofen safe to use during COVID-19 infection?
10. Will COVID-19 go away when it gets warmer out?

See all archived content of the EBM Journal.
Cochrane Library: new items

Access
Select Cochrane Library from the library's list of databases, and just start searching.
A registered login allows you to save search histories for future use. Go to Advanced Search to log in or register for an account.

Help
See Fact Sheet no.5: The Cochrane Library, or contact the library on x55107, or poh.chua@rch.org.au

Recently added items

New Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews:
- Diaphragm-triggered non-invasive respiratory support in preterm infants. Read more
- Different unfractionated heparin doses for preventing arterial thrombosis in children undergoing cardiac catheterization. Read more
- Early erythropoiesis-stimulating agents in preterm or low birth weight infants. Read more
- Early versus late erythropoietin for preventing red blood cell transfusion in preterm and/or low birth weight infants. Read more
- Glucocorticoid replacement regimens for treating congenital adrenal hyperplasia. Read more
- Home fortification of foods with multiple micronutrient powders for health and nutrition in children under two years of age. Read more
- Ibuprofen for the treatment of patent ductus arteriosus in preterm or low birth weight (or both) infants. Read more
- Interventions for increasing acceptance of local anaesthetic in children and adolescents having dental treatment. Read more
- Postnatal corticosteroids for transient tachypnoea of the newborn. Read more
- Sclerotherapy versus sham or no intervention for primary prophylaxis of oesophageal variceal bleeding in children with chronic liver disease or portal vein thrombosis. Read more
- Severe fatigue after treatment for childhood cancer. Read more
- Strategies to improve the implementation of healthy eating, physical activity and obesity prevention policies, practices or programmes within childcare services. Read more
- Surfactant for pulmonary haemorrhage in neonates. Read more
- Sustained versus standard inflations during neonatal resuscitation to prevent mortality and improve respiratory outcomes. Read more
- Timing of hypertonic saline inhalation for cystic fibrosis. Read more
- Topical benzoyl peroxide for acne. Read more
- Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS) for pain management in sickle cell disease. Read more

New Cochrane Database of Systematic Protocols:
- Amplitude-integrated electroencephalography compared with conventional video-electroencephalography for detection of neonatal seizures. Read more
- Early full enteral feeding for preterm or low birth weight infants. Read more
- Interventions for the management of transient tachypnoea of the newborn - an overview of systematic reviews. Read more
- Interventions to increase time spent outdoors for preventing incidence and progression of myopia in children. Read more
- Parenteral versus enteral fluid therapy for children hospitalised with bronchiolitis. Read more
- Physical activity and education about physical activity for chronic musculoskeletal pain in children and adolescents. Read more
- Skincare interventions in infants for preventing eczema and food allergy. Read more
Health and Science News

- **Everyone thinks they're right about masks**: How the coronavirus travels through the air has become one of the most divisive debates in this pandemic. Read more [source: theatlantic.com]

- **Astrophysicist gets magnets stuck up nose while inventing coronavirus device**: Australian Dr Daniel Reardon ended up in hospital after inserting magnets in his nostrils while building a necklace that warns you when you touch your face. Read more [source: theguardian.com]

- **Should scientists infect healthy people with the coronavirus to test vaccines?**: Radical proposal to conduct 'human challenge' studies could dramatically speed up vaccine research. Read more [source: nature.com]

- **Australian COVID-19 modelling and international data reassuring for parents, teachers, according to experts**: The newly released Australian modelling combined with international data supports the Victorian Government's move to allow limited numbers of children to return to classrooms, say researchers from Melbourne's Murdoch Children's Research Institute. Read more [source: scimex.org]

- **What's wrong with the H-index, according to its inventor**: It can “fail spectacularly and have severe unintended negative consequences.” Read more [source: natureindex.com]

- **New device to disinfect 500 N95 masks per hour**: The Terminator CoV device bathes the masks with light in the UV-C range. Read more [source: medgadget.com]

- **Bush-fire smoke linked to hundreds of deaths**: The first study to estimate health effects from Australia's extreme fires suggests that several thousand extra people were admitted to hospital. Read more [source: nature.com]

- **Neither surgical nor cotton masks effectively filter SARS COV-2**: A study conducted at two hospitals in Seoul, South Korea, found that when COVID-19 patients coughed into either type of mask, droplets of virus were released to the environment and external mask surface. Read more [source: eurekalert.org]

- **Speed of coronavirus deaths shocks doctors as New York toll hits new high**: New York City officials said a recent surge in the number of people dying at home suggests the most populous U.S. city may be undercounting how many have died of COVID-19. Read more [source: reuters.com]

- **Quarantine effective for control of COVID-19**: A new Cochrane review has summarised the evidence available from modelling studies that show how quarantining affects the spread of COVID-19. Read more [source: scimex.org]

- **Behind the Johns Hopkins University coronavirus dashboard**: How a spur-of-the-moment decision went viral. Read more [source: natureindex.com]

- **Researchers develop immunity test for COVID-19**: Researchers at Monash University and Alfred Health have developed a rapid test to determine a person's immunity to COVID-19. Read more [source: healthtimes.com.au]

- **Academies join forces to launch COVID-19 expert database**: The learned academies of Australia—representing over 3,000 of the nation's best and most eminent scientists, researchers and other experts—come together to launch a searchable database of experts to help Australia tackle COVID-19. Read more [source: scimex.org]

- **Ancient Australian plant may help in production of COVID-19 vaccine**: Public and private research groups are working around the clock to develop protein-based diagnostic products and vaccines to fight the pandemic. One major problem, once these are developed, is their production in bulk and at a low cost. One solution is to use plants as biofactories for the production. Read more [source: scimex.org]

- **No sign Europe's COVID-19 epidemic is at peak, EU disease monitoring agency says**: Despite early evidence from Italy and Austria that the numbers of cases and deaths are declining, "there is currently no indication that the peak of the epidemic has been reached", the assessment said. Read more [source: reuters.com]

- **Online rapid-response COVID-19 training to help health professionals diagnose lung disease**: The COVID-19 Lung Ultrasound course, developed by the University's Melbourne Medical School Ultrasound Education Group and Mobile Learning Unit, is aimed at medical, nursing and paramedical staff involved in assessing the lungs as part of clinical care. Read more [source: healthtimes.com.au]

- **University converts CPAP machines into ventilators**: "What started as pure intellectual curiosity quickly grew into an emotional race against time to potentially save lives". Read more [source: medgadget.com]
EndNote Tip: Share your library

EndNote X8 and above allows you to share your entire library with up to 100 others. Everyone can add to, annotate and use the library at the same time, anywhere. Additional share features in EndNote X9 mean you can share just a portion of your library, and can allow either Read & Write access or Read only access. View a tutorial on how to share.

You must have an EndNote Online account in order to share your library or to open a library that has been shared with you.

To share a library, you must Sync it first. Then go to File/Share to invite others to share. You can only share a single library, not multiple libraries. A sharee will go to File/Open Shared Library to access the shared library. There is no limit to the number of libraries that can be shared with you.

CAMPUS PUBLICATIONS

Article titles are linked to full text where available, or to information about ordering documents. An OpenAthens account is required for remote access.


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**BOOKS**

[online]

Cystic fibrosis is a disease that affects the entire body. It tends to be thought of as primarily a pulmonary disease since pulmonary decline is the main factor in early mortality.

Because of the multi-system nature of the disease, a better understanding of cystic fibrosis expands the family physician's understanding of subjects ranging from genetics to pulmonary function to nutrition to colon transport to hydration to electrolyte management. The primary care philosophy is unique in that it always considers how a narrow problem can affect an individual globally.

Cystic Fibrosis care can often feel fractured to patients as they are sent to multiple specialists to deal with problems outside of the comfort level of a prior or current specialist.

With a broad medical philosophy, care is more inclusive as clinicians can manage topics such as diabetes and preventive care without multiple referrals and additional appointments.

Family physicians are well-positioned and well-qualified to competently meet many of the care needs of those with cystic fibrosis.
Gender confirming surgery represents one of many therapies for individuals with gender dysphoria and can be pivotal in allowing individuals to become their true selves.

An emerging field, this text represents a continuing evolution of surgical techniques, as well as a framework around which surgical therapies are based.

Providing a fundamental understanding of the surgical principles while also recognizing the fast-paced nature of the advances in technique, this book touches upon the challenges and complexities in the surgical care of transgender individuals, featuring detailed sections for transwomen and transmen surgeries, non-surgical options, and establishing educational programs.

Written as a guide primarily for surgeons in plastics, urology, and gynecology, this book can also appeal to primary care practitioners, mental health professionals, and endocrinologists. By representing an evolution of technique and advances in the field, it offers a framework around which practitioners can familiarize themselves with gender surgery.

This book identifies the various ethical challenges that arise in pediatric hematology/oncology and provides the necessary tools to overcome these challenges.

Aiming to expand upon and strengthen providers’ knowledge and experience in pediatric health care ethical issues, the text positions providers to be beneficial resources to faculty, staff, patients, and families within their institution.

It presents a multidisciplinary approach to sound ethical practices that is necessary to effectively care for these patients and their families.

The book reviews the principles of ethical decision-making, the unique difficulties in using children as research subjects, common ethical conundrums involved in providing end-of-life care, and general moralities of professional practice.

This unique book is a first-of-its-kind resource that comprehensively covers each facet and challenge of providing optimal perinatal palliative care. Designed for a wide and multidisciplinary audience, the subjects covered range from theoretical to the clinical and the practically relevant, and all chapters include case studies that provide real-world scenarios as additional teaching tools for the reader.

It is divided into four sections. Part One provides the foundation, covering an overview of the field, key theories that guide the practice of perinatal palliative care, and includes a discussion of perinatal ethics and parental experiences and needs upon receiving a life-limiting fetal diagnosis.

Part Two delves further into practical clinical care, guiding readers through issues of obstetrical management, genetic counseling, neonatal pain management, non-pain symptom management, spiritual care, and perinatal bereavement care.

Part Three discusses models of perinatal palliative care, closely examining evidence for different types of PPC programs: from hospital-based programs, to community-based care, and examines issues of interdisciplinary PPC care coordination, birth planning, and team support.

Finally, Part Four concludes the book with a close look at special considerations in the field. In this section, racial, ethnic, and cultural perspectives and implications for PPC are discussed, along with lessons in how to provide PPC for a wide-range of clinical and other healthcare workers.

The book closes with a look to the future of the field of perinatal palliative care. Thorough and practical, this is an ideal resource for any healthcare practitioner working with these vulnerable patient populations, from palliative care specialists, to obstetricians, midwives, neonatologists, hospice providers, nurses, doulas, social workers, chaplains, therapists, ethicists, and child life specialists.

This book presents the current state of the nursing science in topics relevant to the care of pediatric oncology patients and their families across the treatment trajectory and is framed within a precision health framework.
The spectrum of topics covered is wide, including, for example, symptom management, self-care management, exercise and physical activity, family-centered care, palliative care, the role of the nurse in treatment decision making, patient and nurse resiliency, survivorship, and genetic counseling.

Throughout, there is a focus on the implications of research for nursing practice, highlighting which elements of the available evidence are ready for translation into practice and which are not. In addition, careful attention is paid to the role that nursing can play in further advancing science through clinical research.

The authors are leading experts from across the globe. The book will be of special interest for pediatric oncology nurses, including direct care nurses, research nurses, and nursing leaders, and will also be a stimulating source for researchers and non-oncology nurses.

[online]

This book is a comprehensive and authoritative textbook on pediatric pulmonology. Edited by Pablo Bertrand and Ignacio Sánchez, renowned academics and pediatricians from the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile, it encompasses five sections and 74 chapters, presenting and discussing the most important topics related to pediatric respiratory diseases.

Written and presented in a simple and didactic format, it intends to that ease learning and settlement of doubts in pediatric respiratory diseases. The reader is naturally introduced into the physiology, diagnosis, syndromes, diseases and the treatment associated to the respiratory pathologies affecting children.

The chapters within this book includes algorithms for the treatment of syndromes and updated treatment proposals grounded on evidence-based medicine for more than 50 pulmonary diseases of pediatric importance.

This is essential for the proper clinical approach of respiratory diseases in children. It is intended for all interns, residents and fellows with interest in pediatric pulmonary medicine, as well as to physicians, general practitioners, pediatricians and pulmonologist who face pediatric respiratory disorders on their clinical practice.