Rapid review on face masks for the general population, version 7/4/2020

**Keywords and Key References for the Rapid Review on** “Does the use of face masks in the general population make a difference to spread of infection?”

**Sub-review 1: What is the effectiveness of face masks in preventing respiratory transmission in the community?**

**Keywords**
Masks, Respiratory Protective Devices, Personal Protective Equipment, Primary Prevention.

**Key references**
2. Brainard J, Jones N, Lake I, et al. Facemasks and similar barriers to prevent respiratory illness such as COVID-19: A rapid systematic review. 2020
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26. Zein, U. The role of using masks to reduce acute upper respiratory tract infections in pilgrims. 4th Asia Pacific travel health conference, Oct 20 2002 Shanghai, PR China
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Sub-review 2: What is the relative effectiveness of medical masks versus non-medical masks or equivalent barriers?

Keywords
COVID-19; coronavirus; SARS-CoV-2; transmission; face masks; community

Key references
18. Simmerman et al. (2011) Findings from a household randomized controlled trial of hand washing and face masks to reduce influenza transmission in Bangkok, Thailand. Influenza and Other Respiratory Viruses 5(4), 256–267


Sub-review 3: What evidence is there for the role of behavioural factors on the effectiveness of face mask use in the community?

Key References


8. Brainard J, Jones N, Lake I, et al. Facemasks and similar barriers to prevent respiratory illness such as COVID-19: A rapid systematic review. 2020


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Sub-review 4: What is the mode of transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and other common respiratory pathogens?

Inclusion criteria
- Reviews and commentaries that reported evidence-based findings of the mode of transmission of coronaviruses (including SARS-CoV-1, SARS-CoV-2, MERS-CoV and seasonal CoVs) and other respiratory pathogens among general human population; OR
- Any published original studies that reported findings of the mode of transmission of coronaviruses

Exclusion criteria
- Animal-based models

Key references
5. Greenhalgh T, Chan XH, Khunti K, Durand-Moreau Q, Straube S, Devane D, et al. What is the efficacy of standard face masks compared to respirator masks in preventing covid-type respiratory illnesses in primary care staff? Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine, Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences, University of Oxford. 2020.
15 Nam HH, Ison MG. Respiratory syncytial virus infection in adults. bmj. 2019;366:l5021.
25 Wilder-Smith A, Chiew CJ, Lee VJ. Can we contain the COVID-19 outbreak with the same measures as for SARS? The Lancet Infectious Diseases. 2020.