

SYNOPSIS

02/11/2020

Review of “Epidemiologic and clinical characteristics of novel coronavirus infections involving 13 patients outside Wuhan, China”

Article citation: Chang D, Lin M, Wei L, Xie L, Zhu G, Dela Cruz CS, et al. Epidemiologic and clinical characteristics of novel coronavirus infections involving 13 patients outside Wuhan, China. JAMA. 2020 Feb 07 [Epub ahead of print]. Available from: <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2761043>

One-Minute Summary

- A research letter describing the early clinical presentations of 13 PCR-confirmed cases of 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) hospitalized in three hospitals in Beijing from January 16 to 29, 2020.
- Most patients (77%) were male.
- The median age was 34 years (interquartile range 34-48 years) and most patients were healthy prior to admission.
 - Patients included two children, aged 2 and 15 years.
- Patient symptoms included:
 - Fever (including self-report) (92%), with a mean duration of 1.6 days
 - Cough (46%)
 - Upper airway congestion (62%)
 - Myalgia (23%)
 - Headache (23%)
- The youngest patient (2 years old) had intermittent fever for one week and persistent cough for 13 days before 2019-nCoV diagnosis.

Additional Information

- As of February 4, 2020, all patients had recovered.
- Patients were transferred to a specialized hospital after diagnosis. The symptoms described in the study are therefore limited to those reported prior to transfer.

PHO Reviewer’s Comments

- Authors did not report on sampling method (how the three hospitals were selected out of all the hospitals in Beijing) and how these 13 patients were selected (from specific wards or consecutively admitted patients during the study period).

Citation

Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Review of “Epidemiologic and clinical characteristics of novel coronavirus infections involving 13 patients outside Wuhan, China.” Toronto, ON: Queen’s Printer for Ontario; 2020.

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