



# COVID-19

## research update

Tuesday, June 2, 2020

### **Re-opening guidelines for schools and day camps**

New [CDC guidance for re-opening procedures for schools and day camps in communities with low levels of COVID-19 infection](#) (CDC, May 30)

covers topics such as scaling up operations, safety actions, hygiene practices, cleaning/ventilation, social distancing, sharing of items, staff training, checking for signs and symptoms and closing if necessary. The information is useful for Ohio day camps that are opening this summer and for schools that are considering how to operate in the fall.

### **Comorbidities associated with COVID-19**

A [study examining clinical qualities and health outcomes of patients with COVID-19 and cancer](#) (The Lancet Oncology, May 29) suggests that cancer is a significant comorbidity of COVID-19, identifying receiving chemotherapy and male sex as risk factors contributing to high rates of case-fatality of patients with both COVID-19 and cancer. The international looks at risk factors for mortality for individuals with cancer and COVID-19. All patients were either discharged or died by April 20, 2020, one month after the study concluded. Researchers found that 183 (89%) of the patients had solid tumors, while the other 22 (11%) patients had hematological malignancies. Thirty (15%) patients were transferred to an ICU, with 40 (20%) patients dying during their hospital stay. The results show that patients with cancer and COVID-19 who were admitted to the hospital had high rates of case-fatality due to risk factors such as receipt of chemotherapy in the month before COVID-19 symptom onset and male sex.

A [French study of people with diabetes hospitalized with COVID-19](#) (Diabetologia, May 29) found that BMI, but not long-term glucose control, age or type of diabetes, was associated with tracheal intubation and/or death within seven days. More than one in 10 hospitalized patients with COVID-19 and diabetes died within the first week of hospitalization. Microvascular and macrovascular diabetic complications were found in 46.8% and 40.8% of cases, respectively. Within a one week period, 29% of patients had tracheal intubation for mechanical ventilation, 10.6% died and 18% were discharged.

## **Increasing COVID-19 case incidence among children and young adults**

[A study on the age distribution of COVID-19 cases in Washington](#) (MedRxiv, May 28) found that, as some areas loosen stay-at-home restrictions and social distancing recommendations, there may be an increase of COVID-19 cases in younger persons who return to non-essential work, social activities and gatherings. The study found that from March 1 to April 19, age distribution in COVID-19 cases in Washington shifted with a 10% decline in cases age 60 years and older and a 20% increase in age 0-19/20-39 years. As incidence declined in older age groups, the combined percentage of cases age 0-19 and 20-39 increased from 20% to 40% of total cases. The shift to more infections among younger people is not without serious morbidity and mortality risk to them and others to whom they may come in contact. A targeted approach for awareness and safety measures may reduce incidence among the more mobile young population under 40 years old.