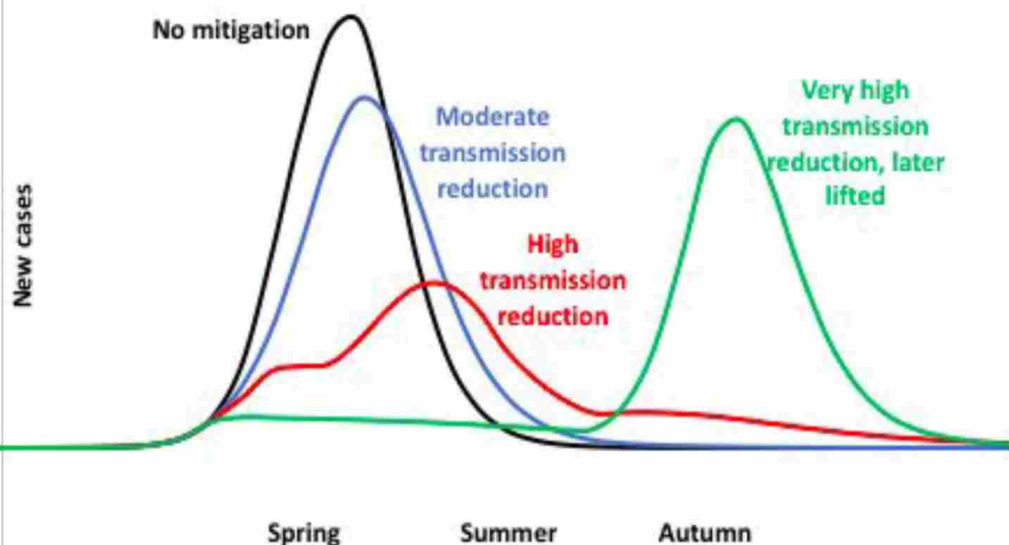


Profile of the epidemic under different approaches

Illustrative impact of social and behavioural interventions lasting several months on a Reasonable Worst Case epidemic



Under the RWCS, cases are expected to peak during April-May, with a very high peak incidence (black line in graph).

Social and behavioural interventions may flatten the peak of the epidemic and increase its duration with the aims of relieving pressure on the NHS, reducing deaths and ensuring they are managed with dignity (red line).

Very stringent social and behavioural interventions (such as those in China) have the potential to prevent a major epidemic establishing, but risks a large epidemic re-establishing when lifted (green line). The advised approach seeks to avoid this possibility.

Vaccines are unlikely to be available until early 2021.