

Interventions considered by SAGE

Measure and/ or combination of measure	SAGE advice	Degree of confidence in the effectiveness of the measure	Potential effectiveness in delaying the peak of an outbreak	Potential effectiveness in reducing the peak of an outbreak	Potential effectiveness in reducing total number of cases and deaths (excluding excess deaths caused by lack of NHS capacity)
(1) Home isolation of symptomatic cases	Advised for consideration now	Low confidence	2-3 weeks delay to peak	Reduction in peak incidence of maybe 20% (uncertainty range at least 15-25%)	Modest impact (<5%)
(2) Whole household isolation	Advised for consideration now	Medium confidence	2-3 weeks delay to peak	Reduction in peak incidence of maybe 25% (uncertainty range at least 20-30%)	Modest impact (<10%)
Social distancing for 70+ (modelling to be validated by SAGE on Tuesday, already validated for 65+)	Advised for consideration now	High confidence	Negligible impact	Reduction in peak total number of cases, but c.25-35% reduction in deaths and demand for hospital beds and critical care beds	15-35% of deaths. In the 80+ this drops to 5-15%.
(1) and (3) Home isolation and social distancing	Advised for consideration now	n/a	2-3 weeks delay to peak	45-55% reduction in peak hospital bed demand	30-45% reduction in deaths
(1), (2) and (3)	Advised for consideration now	n/a	2-3 weeks delay to peak	50-70% reduction in peak hospital bed demand. Greater when started early.	30-50% reduction in deaths. Smaller impact on total cases.
(4) Closing schools	Maybe appropriate at a later stage	High confidence	No more than 3 weeks delay to peak and possibly much less	c.10%-20% reduction in peak hospital demand with closures of 8-12 weeks (if children have similar role in transmission as in pan flu)	Modest (<5%)
(5) Social distancing for all	Maybe appropriate at a later stage in some circumstances	Medium confidence	3-5 week delay to peak	Substantial reduction in peak, may be up to 50-60%	Around 20-25% of deaths
(6) Stopping large events	Not advised	Very low confidence	Very little on own	Very little on own	Very little on own