Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID19) intervention strategies

WHO Collaborating Centre for Infectious Disease Modelling MRC Centre for Global Infectious Disease Analysis





Healthcare Demand

- Likely to place severe demands on even the most developed healthcare systems
- Approximately 5% of cases will require hospitalisation (i.e. at least oxygen support)
- Of these, 30% will require ventilation preferably mechanical ventilation (i.e. ICU facilities)
- These are now NHS central case planning assumptions

Mitigation Strategies

• No pharmaceutical interventions (drugs or vaccines) likely to be available in near-term (vaccine is at least 12 months away)

Behavioural and social interventions:

- CI case isolation in the home
- HQ voluntary household quarantine
- PC close of schools and universities
- MG stopping mass gatherings
- SD social distancing of entire population (75% reduction in contact rates outside the home, school or workplace)
- SDO social distancing of those over 70 years of age









Conclusions

- Tuning behavioural and social interventions (BSI) to minimise the epidemic without giving a second peak can halve deaths, reduce peak by 2/3
- But remaining peak still overwhelms UK surge critical care bed capacity by 8-fold
- Remaining within the surge capacity of the NHS will require more intensive social distancing
- Measures will need to be introduced in the next 2 weeks, 3 maximum
- These measure will need to be in force (perhaps intermittently) into 2021 to avoid a resurgence of transmission