## Supplementary information

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## 1 Derivation of the basic reproduction number

From our age-structured model given in the main text, the expression for  $R_0$  can be derived using the next-generation operator method (1; 2). That is,  $R_0 = r(FW^{-1})$ , i.e.,  $R_0$  is the spectral radius of the next generation matrix  $FW^{-1}$ . In our model,

$$F = \begin{pmatrix} 0_{6\times6} & B & B\\ 0_{12\times6} & 0_{12\times6} & 0_{12\times6} \end{pmatrix},$$

with

$$B(i,j) = \beta_{ij}\xi_i$$
 where  $\xi_i = \frac{N_i}{N}$  for  $i,j = 1, \dots, 6$ ,

and

$$W = \begin{pmatrix} kI_{6\times6} & 0_{6\times6} & 0_{6\times6} \\ -kI_{6\times6} & W_1 & 0_{6\times6} \\ 0_{6\times6} & W_2 & W_3 \end{pmatrix},$$

where for  $i, j = 1, \dots, 6, \quad j \neq i$ ,

$$W_1(i,i) = \alpha_i + \gamma_1, \quad W_1(i,j) = 0,$$

$$W_2(i,i) = -\alpha_i, \quad W_2(i,j) = 0,$$

$$W_3(i,i) = \gamma_2 + \delta_i, \quad W_3(i,j) = 0.$$

Therefore the next generation matrix is given by

$$FW^{-1} = \left(M_{ij}\right)_{i,j=1,\cdots,6}$$

with

$$M_{ij} = \beta_{ij}\xi_i\left[\left(\frac{1}{\alpha_j + \gamma_1}\right)\left(1 + \frac{\alpha_j}{\gamma_2 + \delta_j}\right)\right], \quad i, j = 1, \dots, 6.$$

It is important to note that  $R_0$  depends on the age distribution of the initial susceptible population  $\xi_k = \frac{N_k}{N}$  where  $\sum_{k=1}^6 \xi_k = 1$ .

## References

- Diekmann O, Heesterbeek J. Mathematical Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases: Model Building, Analysis and Interpretation. Wiley, New York; 2000.
- [2] van den Driessche P, Watmough J. Reproduction numbers and sub-threshold endemic equilibria for compartmental models of disease transmission. Math. Biosci. 2002;180:29-48.