

THE LANCET

Healthy Longevity

Supplementary appendix

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Incidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection according to baseline antibody status in staff and residents of 100 Long Term Care Facilities (VIVALDI study): a prospective cohort study

Supplementary appendix

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Recruitment site

All participants were recruited LTCFs belonging to:

Four Seasons Healthcare Group

Norcliffe House, Station Road

Wilmslow, Cheshire

SK9 1BU

United Kingdom

PI: Mr James Robson

MSD Assay detailed protocol

MSD V-PLEX COVID-19 Respiratory Panel 2 (Cat # K15372U) from Meso Scale Diagnostics, Rockville, MD USA Antigens were spotted at 200–400 µg/mL. Multiplex MSD Assays were performed as per the instructions of the manufacturer. To measure IgG antibodies, 96-well plates were blocked with MSD Blocker A for 30 minutes. Following washing with washing buffer, samples diluted 1:500 in diluent buffer, as well as the reference standard and internal controls were added to the wells. After 2-hour incubation and a washing step, detection antibody (MSD SULFO-TAG™ Anti-Human IgG Antibody, 1/200) was added. Following washing, MSD GOLD™ Read Buffer B was added and plates were read using a MESO ® SECTOR S 600 Reader. Text files from the machine were then read on MSD Discovery Workbench and data exported as .csv files. The values from exported data were then adjusted for any sample dilution. Assay Cut-offs were determined by running pre-pandemic plasma samples from healthy donors on the same platform. Cut-offs used are Spike 350 AU/ml and Nucleocapsid 1200 AU/ml.

Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) Testing

Pillar 1, which comprises samples from public health led outbreak investigations and all tests undertaken in hospital; and Pillar 2, which processes samples from community testing programmes in settings such as LTCFs, educational settings and mobile testing centres. Pillar 2 community testing was not widely available in LTCFs until June 2020. Pillar 1 samples from this study were processed by each local NHS diagnostic laboratory (66 laboratories). Pillar 2 samples were processed by a national network of 59 accredited laboratories which was established during the pandemic to provide rapid PCR testing at scale. A range of PCR assays targeting different genes were used across these laboratories. Details of the assays used to analyse samples from reinfections are included in Supplementary Table S1.

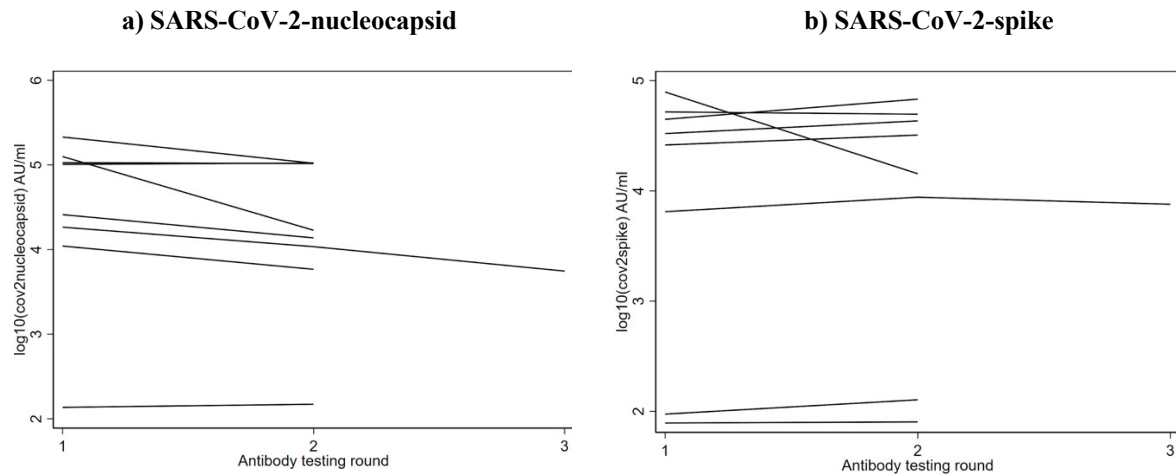
Statistical analysis of quantitative antibody titres

Quantitative antibody titres at the first (baseline) and last testing rounds were summarised (Figure 3 in the main manuscript), the latter stratified by the testing gap between the antibody test and the ‘relevant’ PCR test (first positive for reinfection cases and last negative for controls). Note all reinfections occurred after the last antibody test. Differences in baseline and last antibody test results between reinfections and controls were tested using separate linear regressions of log₁₀ antibody titre. Both models accounted for clustering within LTCFs by using robust standard errors. In the model for last antibody test, the potentially non-linear impact of the testing gap was represented using cubic splines with 5 knots at default positions.

Quantitative antibody titres against nucleocapsid and spike protein

Figure S1 shows quantitative values for antibodies to both nucleocapsid and spike on a logarithmic scale which were measured in up to 3 blood testing rounds undertaken in June/July, August/September and October/November 2020. Of 11 reinfection cases, 8 had > 1 antibody test during follow-up.

Figure S1. Longitudinal quantitative IgG titres against a) nucleocapsid and b) spike in 11 cases of reinfection by testing round.



Description of reinfection cases

Results of PCR and antibody testing were obtained where available for 14 reinfection cases along with detailed data on symptoms. PCR Cycle threshold (Ct) values were retrieved for positive samples taken at the time of reinfection. Samples were processed in four Pillar 2 laboratories using different assays however all targeted at least the ORF1ab gene. Antibody testing was performed at one to three time points for all samples using the Abbott assay on all samples and the MSD assay where samples were available. Results and details of PCR assays performed are presented in Table S1.

Table S1. Characteristics of staff and residents with suspected reinfection

Age band / sex, care home role	Baseline serology to reinfection (days)	Symptoms at reinfection	Symptom duration (days)	Ct value of reinfection PCR ~	Negative NP PCR samples between baseline serology and reinfection	Antibody results			
						Month / year of sample (days before reinfection)	SARS-CoV-2 spike IgG AU/ml (MSD)	SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid IgG AU/ml (MSD)	SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid IgG Index S/C (Abbott)
70-80 F, R	116	Fever	5	30.1 *	2	07/20 (116)	137840	222308	6.27
						11/20 (4)	NA	NA	6.35
90-100 F, R	140	Fever	7	41.4 ±	4	06/20 (140)	NA	NA	8.69
						08/20 (84)	26055	106219	6.77
						10/20 (28)	32051	103738	8.48
60-70 F, R	188	Fever	3	28.9 ±	6	06/20 (188)	NA	NA	1.06
						08/20 (132)	94	10997	0.35
						10/20 (76)	127	5839	0.18
70-80M, R	148	Fever	5	NA	4	06/20 (148)	NA	NA	1.1
						08/20 (92)	NA	NA	1.24
50-60 F, S	128	Cough	7	37.7 ±	9	07/20 (128)	33057	25849	2.82
						09/20 (71)	43078	13727	1.42
40-50 M, S	132	Cough	10	37.6 ±	13	06/20 (132)	NA	NA	7.63
						08/20 (76)	51997	101527	7.77
						10/20 (20)	49532	105247	9.07
50-60 F, S	103	Cough	11	35.9 #	6	06/20 (103)	77315	161580	5.5
50-60 F, S	200	Fever	14	25.2 #	12	06/20 (200)	NA	NA	2.1
						08/20 (144)	78	137	1.63

						10/20 (88)	80	149	1·87
30-40 F, S	124	Cough	14	36·3 ±	9	07/20 (124)	6468	18393	2·56
						09/20 (68)	8759	10810	1·39
						11/20 (12)	7557	5565	0·76
60-70 F, S	104	Cough	14	36·9 #	9	07/20 (104)	44544	213650	5·58
						09/20 (48)	67856	104658	3·51
50-60 F, S	141	Unknown	-	35·2 #	2	08/20 (141)	NA	NA	7·39
40-50 F, S	118	Cough	5	36·2 ±	12	07/20 (118)	78784	125512	1·44
						09/20 (62)	14292	16888	0·71
						11/20 (6)	NA	NA	0·4
60-70 M, S	153	No	n/a	28·9 *	13	06/20 (153)	NA	NA	3·72
						08/20 (97)	NA	NA	2·41
						10/20 (41)	19580	22254	1·35
30-40 F, S	147	Unknown	-	39·6 ±	23	09/20 (23)	NA	NA	1·37

R Resident S Staff NA Data unavailable

~ If > 1 gene target, mean Ct value presented

*Primer Design PCR assay with ORF1ab gene target, Ct threshold for positivity = 40.

Randox PCR assay that targets ORF1ab and E genes, Ct threshold for positivity = 37.

± Perkin Elmer SARS-CoV-2 Real-time RT-PCR Assay CE-IVD with two target genes (N and Orf1ab) and one human IC gene (RPP30), Ct threshold for positivity = 42

Sensitivity analysis 1

Table S2 shows the results of repeating the multivariable analysis using the manufacturer's recommended cut off value of >1.4 to classify samples as positive or negative for SARS-CoV-2 (based on detection of antibodies to nucleocapsid).

Table S2: Multivariate analysis of risk of infection by antibody status (1.4 Abbott threshold)

	Stratified by LTCF		Stratified by region	
	aHR [95% CI]	p-value	aHR [95% CI]	p-value
Residents	0.08 [0.02-0.35]	p=0.001	0.05 [0.01-0.21]	p<0.001
Staff	0.43 [0.20-0.92]	p=0.029	0.28 [0.13-0.60]	p=0.001

aHR adjusted for age and gender

Sensitivity analysis 2

Table S3-S4 assumes an entry date of 28 days following the first antibody test for all participants, removing the restriction using October 1st as a minimum entry date.

This alternative approach results in a larger sample than in our main analysis (n=2,220). Table SA2.1 presents analysis for our main sample, while Table SA2.2 presents analysis including these additional participants.

Table S3: Multivariate analysis of risk of infection by antibody status (entry date 28 days following first antibody test for all participants): restricted to primary sample (n=2,111)

	Stratified by LTCF		Stratified by region	
	aHR [95% CI]	p-value	aHR [95% CI]	p-value
Residents	0.28 [0.12-0.65]	p=0.003	0.17 [0.07-0.39]	p<0.001
Staff	0.67 [0.37-1.22]	p=0.193	0.45 [0.24-0.83]	p=0.010

aHR adjusted for age and gender

Table S4: Multivariate analysis of risk of infection by antibody status (entry date 28 days following first antibody test for all participants): full sample (n=2,220)

	Stratified by LTCF		Stratified by region	
	aHR [95% CI]	p-value	aHR [95% CI]	p-value
Residents	0.28 [0.12-0.65]	p=0.003	0.17 [0.07-0.39]	p<0.001
Staff	0.64 [0.35-1.16]	p=0.142	0.44 [0.24-0.82]	p=0.009

aHR adjusted for age and gender

STROBE statement

	Item No	Recommendation	Page No
Title and abstract			
	1	(a) Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract	2 (abstract), 4 (methods)
		(b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found	2
Introduction			
Background/rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported	4 (background)
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses	4 (background)
Methods			
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	4-6 (methods)
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection	4-5 (methods)
Participants	6	<i>a) Cohort study?</i> Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants. Describe methods of follow-up <i>Case-control study?</i> Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of case ascertainment and control selection. Give the rationale for the choice of cases and controls <i>Cross sectional study?</i> Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants	4-6 (methods)
		<i>(b) Cohort study?</i> For matched studies, give matching criteria and number of exposed and unexposed <i>Case-control study?</i> For matched studies, give matching criteria and the number of controls per case	6 (methods)
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable	5-7 (methods)
Data sources/ measurement	8*	For each variable of interest, give sources of data and details of methods of assessment (measurement). Describe comparability of assessment methods if there is more than one group	5-7 (methods)
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias	6 (methods)
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	4-5 (methods)
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why	5-7 (methods)
Statistical methods	12	(a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding	5-7 (methods)
		(b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions	5-7 (methods)
		(c) Explain how missing data were addressed	5-7 (methods)
		(d) <i>Cohort study?</i> If applicable, explain how loss to follow-up was addressed <i>Case-control study?</i> If applicable, explain how matching of cases and controls was addressed <i>Cross sectional study?</i> If applicable, describe analytical methods taking account of sampling strategy	5-7 (methods)
		(e) Describe any sensitivity analyses	7 (methods)
Results			
Participants	13*	(a) Report numbers of individuals at each stage of study? eg numbers potentially eligible, examined for eligibility, confirmed eligible, included in the study, completing follow-up, and analysed	8 (results), supplement

	Item No	Recommendation	Page No
		(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage	8 (results), supplement
		(c) Consider use of a flow diagram	supplement
Descriptive data	14*	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders	8, table 1
		(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest	8, table 1
		(c) <i>Cohort study?</i> Summarise follow-up time (eg average and total amount)	8 (results), figure 1
Outcome data	15*	<i>Cohort study?</i> Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time	8 (results), table 2, figure 1
		<i>Case-control study?</i> Report numbers in each exposure category, or summary measures of exposure	n/a
		<i>Cross sectional study?</i> Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures	n/a
Main results	16	(a) Report the numbers of individuals at each stage of the study?eg numbers potentially eligible, examined for eligibility, confirmed eligible, included in the study, completing follow-up, and analysed	8 (results), supplement
		(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage	8 (results), supplement
		(c) Consider use of a flow diagram	supplement
Other analyses	17	Report other analyses done?eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses	8-9 (results), tables 3-4, supplement
Discussion			
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives	9-11 (discussion)
Limitations	19	Discuss limitations of the study, taking into account sources of potential bias or imprecision. Discuss both direction and magnitude of any potential bias	9-11 (discussion)
Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence	9-11 (discussion)
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results	9-11 (discussion)
Other information			
Funding	22	Give the source of funding and the role of the funders for the present study and, if applicable, for the original study on which the present article is based	7 (role of funding source)