



Con il patrocinio di



# Newsletter Scientifica COVID 19 & MEDICAL HUMANITIES

“Ogni strada deve avere un cuore, se non lo ha è una strada sbagliata”.

Carlos Castaneda



“Martha McKeen of Wellfleet”, 1944. Edward Hopper - Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum, Madrid

Questa newsletter settimanale, redatta dal Servizio Formazione e Sviluppo Risorse Umane della ASL BI in collaborazione con la Biblioteca Biomedica 3Bi, si rivolge ai professionisti sanitari impegnati nella fase di emergenza Covid-19.

Fedeli alla filosofia che ha animato l'agire del nostro Servizio, la newsletter Covid 19 & Medical Humanities affianca alle risorse bibliografiche e agli articoli tratti dalle principali fonti istituzionali e scientifiche alcuni contributi che fanno riferimento alle discipline umanistiche. Crediamo nel valore generato dall'integrazione dei saperi e ci auguriamo che la pubblicazione incontri il vostro gradimento.  
Buona lettura!

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**Newsletter**



Pagina Pensieri Circolari



Pagina Fondazione 3BI

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Dott. NICOLÒ ERRICA - Medico ASL BI e  
Consigliere Ordine dei Medici di Biella

Ha collaborato a questo numero:

Dott. Luca Sala  
Direttore Dipartimento Prevenzione ASL BI

Questa settimana Vi segnaliamo che nella sezione **RISORSE - BANCHE DATI** del portale della BVS-P è presente il database:

### JBI - Joanna Briggs Institute

JBI è un'organizzazione scientifica che ha sede presso l'University of Adelaide, Australia. Riconosce il modello di pratica evidence-based come standard globale di eccellenza nel settore delle professioni sanitarie.



Per accedere registrarsi a [www.bvspiemonte.it](http://www.bvspiemonte.it)

### Per ricercare la letteratura internazionale

La Biblioteca Virtuale per la Salute - Piemonte è uno strumento di supporto all'attività degli Operatori della sanità piemontese. La BVS-P offre periodici elettronici e banche dati agli operatori della sanità piemontese per consentire loro di ricercare progressi e significati nella letteratura scientifica, sui temi della salute e dell'ambiente.

Inoltre si propone di promuovere la medicina basata sulle evidenze, e di contribuire alla formazione nel campo della ricerca bibliografica e della valutazione critica della letteratura scientifica.

Animals (Basel). 2020 Dec 24;11(1):16.

### [Do Animals Play a Role in the Transmission of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus-2 \(SARS-CoV-2\)? A Commentary](#)

Anna Costagliola, Giovanna Liguori, Danila d'Angelo, Caterina Costa, Francesca Ciani, Antonio Giordano

PMID: 33374168 PMCID: PMC7823338 DOI: 10.3390/ani11010016

**Abstract:** Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2) belongs to the Beta-coronavirus genus. It is 96.2% homologous to bat CoV RaTG13 and 88% homologous to two bat SARS-like coronaviruses. SARS-CoV-2 is the infectious agent responsible for the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), which was first reported in the Hubei province of Wuhan, China, at the beginning of December 2019. Human transmission from COVID-19 patients or incubation carriers occurs via coughing, sneezing, speaking, discharge from the nose, or fecal contamination. Various strains of the virus have been reported around the world, with different virulence and behavior. In addition, SARS-CoV-2 shares certain epitopes with some taxonomically related viruses, with tropism for the most common synanthropic animals. By elucidating the immunological properties of the circulating SARS-CoV-2, a partial protection due to human-animal interactions could be supposed in some situations. In addition, differential epitopes could be used for the differential diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection. There have been cases of transmission from people with COVID-19 to pets such as cats and dogs. In addition, wild felines were infected. All These animals were either asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic and recovered spontaneously. Experimental studies showed cats and ferrets to be more susceptible to COVID-19. COVID-19 positive dogs and felines do not transmit the infection to humans. In contrast, minks at farms were severely infected from people with COVID-19. A SARS-Cov-2 variant in the Danish farmed mink that had been previously infected by COVID-19 positive workers, spread to mink workers causing the first case of animal-to-human infection transmission that causes a moderate decreased sensitivity to neutralizing antibodies. Thus, more investigations are necessary. It remains important to understand the risk that people with COVID-19 pose to their pets, as well as wild or farm animals so effective recommendations and risk management measures against COVID-19 can be made. A One Health unit that facilitates collaboration between public health and veterinary services is recommended.

**Keywords:** COVID-19; SARS-CoV-2; coronavirus; zoonosis.





Review Heart Lung. 2021 Jan 20;50(2):357-360.

[COVID-19 Coagulopathy: Current knowledge and guidelines on anticoagulation](#)

Joshua K Salabei 1, Troy J Fishman 2, Zekarias T Asnake 2, Arroj Ali 2, Uma G Iyer 3

PMID: 33524866 PMCID: PMC7816593 DOI: 10.1016/j.hrtlng.2021.01.011

**Abstract:** COVID-19-associated coagulopathy (CAC) is a feature of COVID-19 that can lead to various thrombotic complications and death. In this review, we briefly highlight possible etiologies, including direct cytotoxicity caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, and the activation of proinflammatory molecules such as cytokines, underlying coagulopathy. Endothelial dysfunction has been highlighted as pivotal, irrespective of the mechanism involved in CAC. Specific features of CAC distinguishing it from disseminated intravascular coagulopathy and sepsis or ARDS-associated coagulopathy have been discussed. We have also highlighted some hematological parameters, such as elevated d-dimers and partial prothrombin and prothrombin times prolongation, which can guide the use of anticoagulation in critically ill patients. We conclude by highlighting the importance of prophylactic anticoagulation in all COVID-19 hospitalized patients and reiterate the need for institution-specific guidelines for anticoagulation COVID-19 patients since individual institutions have different patient populations.

**Keywords:** Anticoagulation; Coagulation; Covid-19; Sars-cov-2; Thrombosis; d-dimers.

Multicenter Study Coron Artery Dis. 2021 Jan;32(1):1-3.

[Association of social containment on ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction presentations during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

Nilesh Pareek 1 2, Julian Yeoh 1 2, Fernando Macaya 3, Stefano Cannata 1, Ritesh Kanyal 1 2, Apurva Bharucha 1 2, Marianna Adamo 4, Pablo Salinas 3, Ajay M Shah 1 2, Rafal Dworakowski 1 2, Philip MacCarthy 1 2, Jonathan Byrne

PMID: 32976246 PMCID: PMC7709881 DOI: 10.1097/MCA.0000000000000965

**Background:** Social containment measures ('stay at home' and 'closure' periods) introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic are reported to have led to a substantial reduction in emergency admissions for ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) but there is limited data on the duration of this reduction and whether this is subsequently followed by an increase [1]. In this study, we evaluated the association of social containment on rates of STEMI presentations in three European Heart Attack Centres (HAC) from major epicentres during the pandemic.

**Methods:** We recruited all patients with STEMI 4–6 weeks after the date of the first registered case of COVID-19 from three HACs: King's College Hospital (KCH), London (4 March 2020 to 16 April 2020), Hospital Clinico San Carlos (HCSC), Madrid (1 March 2020 to 17 April 2020) and Spedali Civili (SC), Brescia (04 March 2020 to 31 March 2020). Cumulative STEMI incidence was tracked from the date of social containment – 23 March 2020 (UK), 15 March 2020 (Spain) and 09 March 2020 (Italy). Piecewise linear regression was performed for the 30-day period after closure and then by using visual estimations of significant cut-points in slope. Differences between the splines were determined by Student's t-test. Second, patients during the COVID-19 pandemic were compared with a time-matched 2019 cohort, with in-hospital mortality as the primary end-point.

**Results:** During the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020, 105 patients were admitted from the date of social containment in each city to a time period ~30 days after announcement – 57 from KCH (54.3%), 25 (23.8%) from HCSC and 23 (21.9%) from SC. Cumulative incidence showed significant differences in cases between KCH, SC and HCSC (slopes 1.29, 0.79 and 0.58, respectively). However, quiescent phases (defined as flattening of the rate of admission curves) across all systems which was shortest and least acute at KCH (7 days, slope 1.05), compared to SC (10 days, slope 0.41) and longest and most manifest for HCSC (14 days, slope 0.09).



J Hosp Palliat Nurs. 2021 Jan 6; Publish Ahead of Print.

[Ethical Implications of COVID-19: Palliative Care, Public Health, and Long-Term Care Facilities](#)

Amisha Parekh de Campos 1, Susan Daniels

PMID: 33417386 DOI: 10.1097/NJH.0000000000000735

**Abstract:** Outbreaks of COVID-19 among nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and other long-term care facilities in the United States have had devastating effects on residents. Restrictions such as banning visitors, sequestering residents, and testing health care staff have been implemented to mitigate the spread of the virus. However, consequences include a decline in mental and physical health, decompensation, and a sense of hopelessness among residents. We present and explore a case study at an assisted living facility addressing the ethical issues in balancing the management of the community versus the resident's right to autonomy and self-determination. A team of palliative care experts was brought into assisted living facilities to manage patients, care for well residents, and provide input in advance care planning and symptom management. The principles of self-determination and autonomy, stewardship, and distributive justice were explored. The use of nursing skills in triage and assessment, principles in public health, and the 8 domains of palliative care provided a comprehensive framework for structuring emergency operations. Palliative interventions and the role of palliative care nurses played an integral part in addressing ethical challenges in the containment of the virus and the deleterious effects of social isolation among the elderly.

Arch Rehabil Res Clin Transl. 2021 Feb 4;100108.

[COVID-19: patient characteristics in the first phase of post-intensive care rehabilitation](#)

Carolina M H Wiertz, Wouter A J Vints, Geert J C M Maas, Sascha M C Rasquin, Yvette Y van Horn, Martijn P M Dremmen, Bena Hemmen, Jeanine A Verbunt

PMID: 33558860 PMCID: PMC7859717 DOI: 10.1016/j.arrct.2021.100108

**Abstract**

**Objective:** To describe clinical characteristics of post-ICU COVID-19 patients, admitted for inpatient rehabilitation.

**Design:** A cross-sectional design.

**Setting:** Inpatient rehabilitation care in the Netherlands.

**Participants:** All post-ICU COVID-19 patients admitted to the rehabilitation centre between April 2 and May 13, 2020 were invited to participate in the study. Included were patients above 18 years old, needing inpatient rehabilitation after ICU treatment for COVID-19.

**Intervention:** Not applicable.

**Main outcomes measures:** The following information was collected in the first week of inpatient rehabilitation care: 1. Demographics, 2. ICU-stay parameters, 3. Medical, physical and functional characteristics, 4. Self-reported symptoms.

**Results:** Sixty patients participated with the mean age of 59.9 and the majority being men (75%). Most important findings for rehabilitation: in the first week after discharge to the rehabilitation centre 38.3% of all patients experienced exercise-induced oxygen desaturation, in 72.7% muscle weakness was present in all major muscle groups and 21.7% had a reduced mobility in one or both shoulders. Furthermore 40% suffered from dysphagia and 39.2% reported symptoms of anxiety.

**Conclusion:** Post-ICU COVID-19 patients, display physical and anxiety symptoms as reported in other post-ICU patient groups. However this study showed some remarkable clinical characteristics of post-ICU COVID-19 patients. Rehabilitation programs need to anticipate on this. Long-term follow-up studies are necessary.

**Keywords:** ADL, Activities of daily living; ARDS, Acute respiratory distress syndrome; Adult; BI, Barthel index; BMI, Body mass index; COPD, Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; COVID-19; COVID-19, Coronavirus Disease 2019; CRRT, Continuous renal replacement therapy; Critical care; DVT, Deep vein thrombosis; ECMO, Extra-corporeal membrane oxygenation; HHD, Handheld dynamometer; ICU, Intensive care unit; ICU-AW, ICU-acquired weakness; MRC, Medical Research Council; MV, Mechanical ventilation; NRS, Numeric rating scale; PE, Pulmonary embolisms; PICS, Post intensive care syndrome; ROM, Range of motion; Rehabilitation; SARS, Severe acute respiratory syndrome.





Il mare in  
un bicchiere:  
medical humanities  
ed emergenza

## CONTANO I LEGAMI

Non sai bene se la vita è viaggio,  
se è sogno, se è attesa, se è un piano che si svolge giorno  
dopo giorno e non te ne accorgi  
se non guardando all'indietro. Non sai se ha senso.  
In certi momenti il senso non conta.  
Contano i legami.

Jorge Luis Borges



Opera di Simone Rea

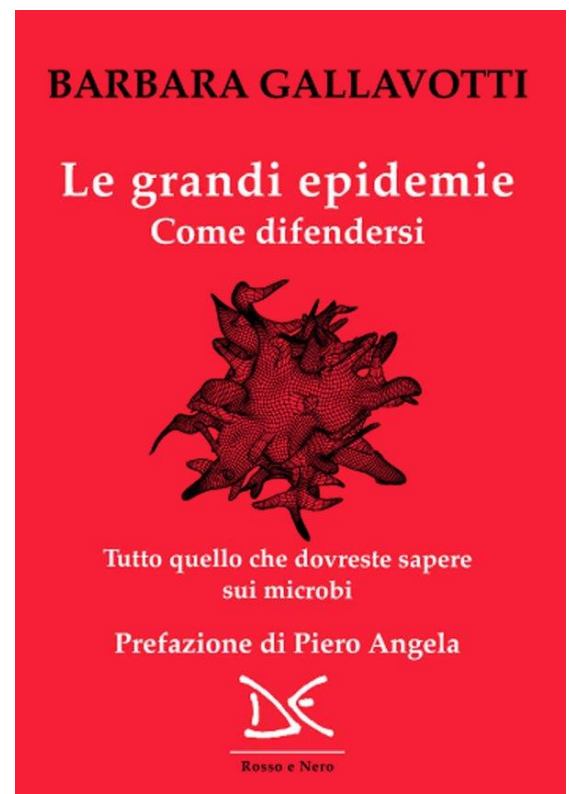
*Simone Rea è uno degli illustratori per l'infanzia più apprezzati e affermati d'Italia. Pittore, illustratore, disegnatore a tutto tondo il suo stile e le sue immagini non si rivolgono esclusivamente a un pubblico di giovanissimi, tutt'altro.*

Tratto da: **“Le grandi epidemie. Come difendersi”** - Collana Rosso e Nero - Donzelli Editore Roma

(...) La scienza in generale e la medicina moderna in particolare hanno moltissimi pregi: portano allo sviluppo di tecnologie e farmaci che ci aiutano a vivere più a lungo e a restare maggiormente in buona salute, inoltre ci consentono di soddisfare la nostra curiosità di sapere come funziona l'organismo umano...

Ma hanno anche un difetto, o meglio qualcosa che può creare grossi problemi: scienza e medicina ci fanno dimenticare come sarebbe la nostra vita se non esistessero, e dunque portano a non comprendere quanto siano fondamentali. Questa sorta di amnesia collettiva sta diventando evidente nel caso delle malattie infettive: protetti dai loro effetti più nefasti, non siamo ormai più in grado di renderci conto della loro potenza distruttrice. E letteralmente, stiamo costruendo un immaginario passato di convivenza felice fra noi e i microbi patogeni che nella realtà non è mai esistito (...)

*Barbara Gallavotti è biologa, scrittrice, giornalista scientifica. Da oltre vent'anni è autrice di trasmissioni televisive, in particolare Superquark e Ulisse.*





# WEBINAR

## YouTube



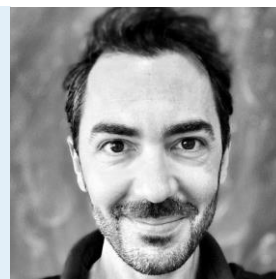
ONLINE EDUCATION

## COS'È (COME FUNZIONA) LA SCIENZA?

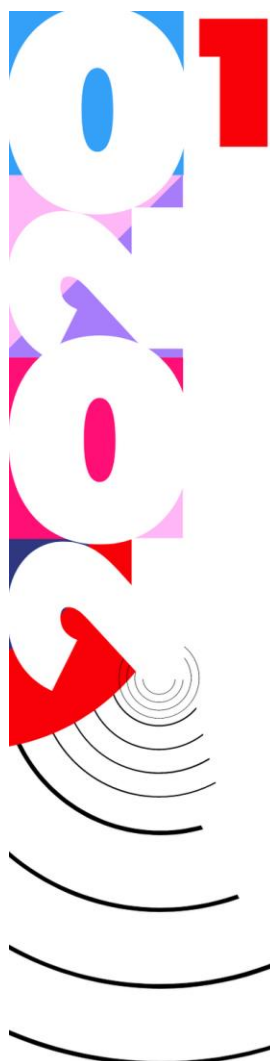
A cura Di Amedeo Balbi

Imparare a orientarci tra le tante cose che si sentono, soprattutto in rete, e che vengono spacciate per scientifiche, oggi è più importante che mai. Ma appunto, come facciamo a capire se un'idea è effettivamente scientifica oppure no? E cos'è (e come funziona) la scienza?

Per seguire il video cliccare sul link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tPNv7SaLMwM>



*Amedeo Balbi è un astrofisico, divulgatore scientifico e saggista italiano.*



Convegno Biennale Pensieri Circolari 2020/21

# AMBIENTI NARRATIVI

**praticare la cura in luoghi  
identitari, relazionali, storici**

Tornano i webinar di Pensier Circolari, con un primo appuntamento dedicato all'emergenza sanitaria.

**Sabato 27 febbraio 2021**  
ore 10.00 - 11.30

**COVID-19 E IMMAGINARI  
DISTOPICI: COSA CI HA  
INSEGNATO L'EMERGENZA?**

*Prof. Vincenzo Alastra, Prof.ssa Manuela Ceretta,  
Dott. Massimo Cuono*



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