GEM

General practice Evidence for Modern day practice

GEMs offer brief updates from general practice research tackling the challenges of front-line practice.

Living risk prediction algorithm (QCOVID) for risk of hospital admission and mortality from coronavirus

Professor Julia Hippisley-Cox

The clinical problem tackled by this research

Accurate estimation of an individual patients' risk of severe COVID-19 outcomes may be useful for shared decision making regarding non-pharmacological interventions, as well as shielding or vaccine prioritisation. Data for over 8 million adults in England was used to develop and validate statistical models that can predict individuals' risks of being hospitalised or dying due to COVID-19.

What this research tells us about the problem

- The QCOVID risk prediction algorithm was used during the second wave of COVID-19 to identify an additional 2 million adults who were advised to shield, whilst it was also used to prioritise vaccinations after the initial phases of the UK vaccination programme.

The research team (*GPs)

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Suggested WISE Action

1. Refer to a patients' risk of severe COVID-19 outcomes, calculated using the QCOVID algorithm, to make shared-decisions when they seek advice on future precautions to take regarding exposure to COVID-19.

Where you can read more about this work

Journal Article: https://www.bmj.com/content/371/bmj.m3731

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