Abstract Sheet

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Abstract 【English】

COVID-19 is the seventh coronavirus to cause human-to-human infection, and as of November 2021, variants that have acquired mutations associated with increased infectivity and immune evasion are a worldwide problem. About 30-40% of infected people are considered asymptomatic, but the incubation period of those who develop the disease is about 5 days, and they show flu-like symptoms. Olfactory and gustatory disturbances are highly specific to new coronavirus infections. The typical course of the disease is that about 20% of patients become severely ill 7 to 10 days after onset. Elderly people, patients with underlying diseases, and obesity are risk factors. The so-called LONG COVID, in which symptoms persist even after the patient has recovered from the acute phase, has been attracting attention. The PCR test has the advantage of high sensitivity and specificity, but its disadvantage is that it takes time to obtain the results and it may continue to be positive even after the infection has disappeared. The antigen test can be performed in a short time and is inexpensive, but its sensitivity and specificity are inferior to those of the PCR test. In COVID-19 patients, the virus multiplies for a while after the onset, and antiviral drugs are considered effective. As of November 2021, drugs with antiviral activity approved in Japan include Remdesivir, casirivimab/ imdevimab, and sotrovimab, and anti-inflammatory drugs include dexamethasone and Baricitinib. Since coagulation abnormalities also play a role in the pathogenesis, anticoagulants such as heparin are commonly used in combination. SARS-CoV-2 is spread by droplet and contact transmission, but it is known that they are more likely to spread in what is called a "3Cs" space. There are three types of COVID-19 vaccines approved in Japan, and as of November 2021, two main mRNA vaccines are being administered. All of them have shown extremely high efficacy in preventing the onset of the disease and are thought to have contributed to the reduction of the fatality rate in the fifth wave.

Abstract 【日本語】