

COVID-19 Transmission in Inpatient Psychiatry Patients

Objectives

- Review the basics of COVID-19 transmission and risks.
- Understand the factors that contribute to inpatient transmission of COVID-19.
- Understand the clinical and ethical challenges affecting mitigation strategies.

COVID-19 Transmission Basics

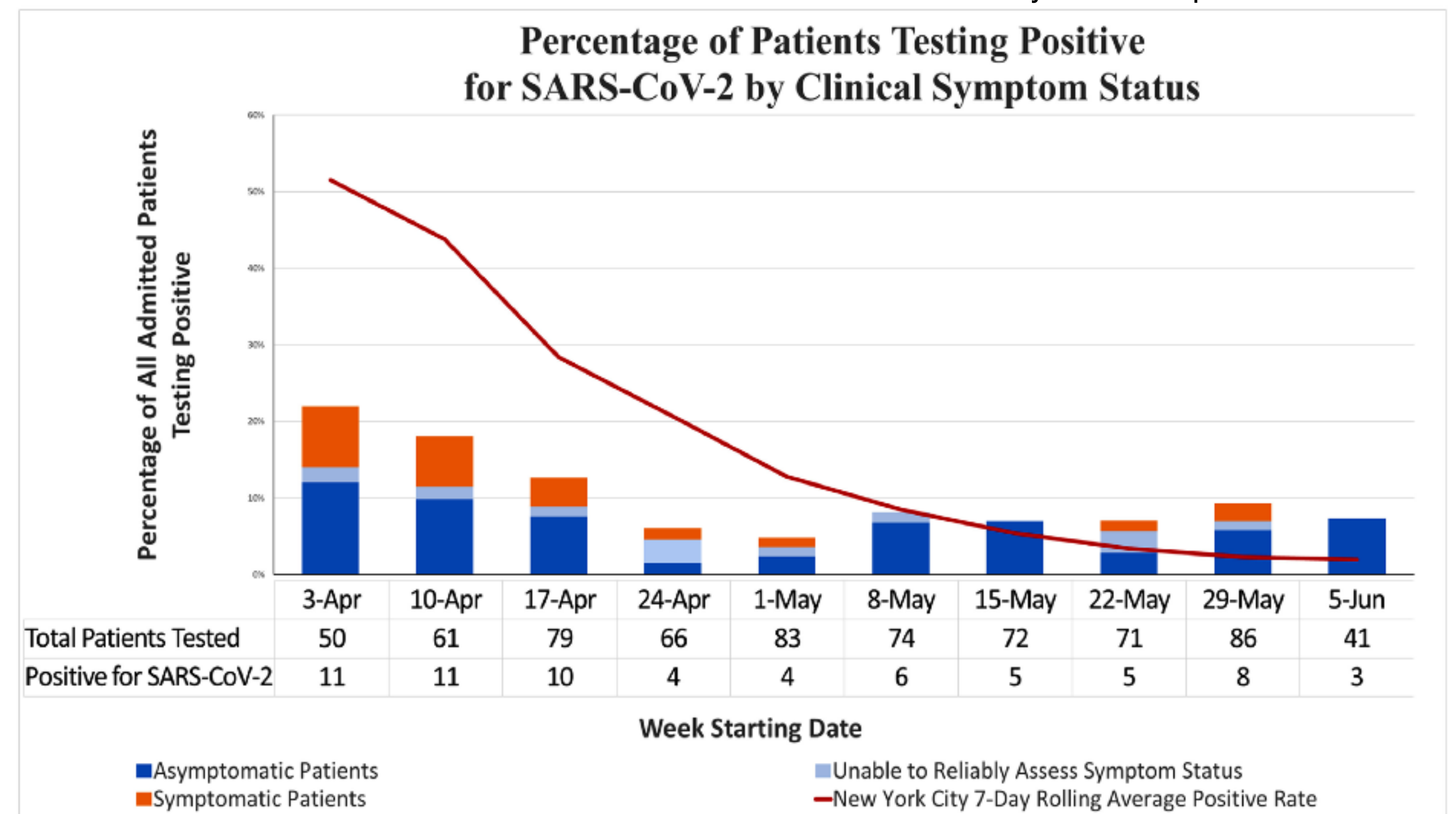
Mechanisms

- Respiratory droplets: sneezing, coughing, speech
- Aerosols
- Additionally: direct contact, fomite, fecal-oral, vertical

Incubation period: 2–14 days, usually ~ 5 days

Basic reproduction number (R_0): ~ 2–4

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[1] AMBOSS. COVID-19 (coronavirus disease 2019). Accessed November 26, 2021. [https://www.amboss.com/us/knowledge/COVID-19_\(coronavirus_disease_2019\)/](https://www.amboss.com/us/knowledge/COVID-19_(coronavirus_disease_2019)/)

[2] Brody BD, Shi Z, Shaffer C, et al. COVID-19 infection rates in patients referred for psychiatric admission during a regional surge: The case for universal testing. *Psychiatry Research*. 2021;298:113833. doi:10.1016/j.psychres.2021.113833