| **Author** | **Reason for Exclusion** |
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| *Contact investigations* | |
| 91:Tong, ZD | Case series of already diagnosed cases |
| 735: Huang, R | Contact investigation of a single family or individual |
| 344: Jiang, XL | Contact investigation of a single family or individual |
| 372: Jiang, X | Contact investigation of a single family or individual |
| 36: Liao, J | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 22: Hu, Z | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 42: Luo, SH | Contact investigation of a single family or individual |
| 11: Chan, JF | Contact investigation of a single family or individual |
| 180: Ye, F | Contact investigation of a single family or individual |
| 4: Bai, Y | Contact investigation of a single family or individual |
| 374: Luo: Y | Contact investigation of a single family or individual |
| 142: Zhang, J | Contact investigation of a single family or individual |
| 389: Zhang, B | Contact investigation of a single family or individual |
| 449: Huang, L | Contact investigation of a single family or individual |
| 54: Qian, G | Contact investigation of a single family or individual |
| 414: Gao, Y | Case series that do not enrol consecutive patients |
| *Contact investigations, aggregated* | |
| 249: Wang, Z | Not all contacts were tested for SARS-CoV-2 |
| 908: Yang, R | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| *Outbreak investigations* | |
| 763: Roxby, AC | Inadequate follow-up, unclear information about the last possible exposure. |
| 899: Solbach, W | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| *Screening* | |
| 224: Arima, Y | Same population reported twice |
| 278: Lytras, T | Only included pre-symptomatic patients |
| *Hospitalised adults* | |
| 204: Pongpirul, WA | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 521: Qiu, C | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 761: Zhou, R | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 664: Chang, MC | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 233: Zhou, X | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 765: Angelo Vaira, L | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 187: Wang, X | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 434: Xu, T | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 64: Tabata, S | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 797: Noh, JY | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 818: Kumar, R | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 267: Meng, H | Only included pre-symptomatic patients |
| 491: Zhang, Z | Only included pre-symptomatic patients |
| 834: Al‐Shamsi, HO | Only included pre-symptomatic patients |
| 71: Wang, Y1 | Only included pre-symptomatic patients |
| *Hospitalised children* | |
| 299: See, KC | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 275: Tan, YP | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 334: Tan, X | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 769: Melgosa, M | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 843: Wu, HP | Inadequate follow-up. |
| 481: Song, W | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 653: Bai, K | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 382: Xu, H | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 141: Qiu, H | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 556: Lu, Y | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| *Hospitalised adults and children* | |
| 637: Merza, MA | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 328: Yongchen, Z | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 585: Ma, Y | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 559: Kim, SE | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 856: Choe, PG | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 981: Sharma, AK | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 745: Zhang, W3 | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 726: Alshami, AA | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 936: Kong, W | The study only included diagnosed cases |
| 778: Wang, Y2 | The study only included diagnosed cases |