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1 st author	Soumik	Purkayastha	0000-0002-3619-2804
2 nd author	Rupam	Bhattacharyya	0000-0003-4292-2372
3 rd author	Ritwik	Bhaduri	
4 th author	Ritoban	Kundu	
5 th author	Xuelin	Gu	
6 th author	Maxwell	Salvatore	0000-0002-3659-1514
7 th author	Swapnil	Mishra	0000-0002-8759-5902
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Debashree Ray, Assistant Professor from the Department of Epidemiology, Johns Hopkins University was added as a co-author to this manuscript for her help with the revision. Debashree had some thoughtful suggestions that helped address reviewer comments. She read, edited and crafted the section on sensitivity analysis of the different models, integrating input from other co-authors.

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2 nd author	Rupam	Bhattacharyya	University of Michigan	rupamb@umich.edu
3 rd author	Ritwik	Bhaduri	Indian Statistical Institute	ritwik.bhaduri@gmail.com
4 th author	Ritoban	Kundu	Indian Statistical Institute	ritoban.kundu@gmail.com
5 th author	Xuelin	Gu	University of Michigan	xuelingu@umich.edu
6 th author	Maxwell	Salvatore	University of Michigan	mmsalva@umich.edu
7 th author	Debashree	Ray	Johns Hopkins University	dray@jhu.edu
8 th author	Swapnil	Mishra	Imperial College London	s.mishra@imperial.ac.uk
9 th author	Bhramar	Mukherjee	University of Michigan	bhramar@umich.edu
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Soumik Purkayastha drafted the main paper and prepared all numerical items (Tables and Figures). Rupam Bhattacharyya and Maxwell Salvatore (eSIR), Xuelin Gu (SAPHIRE), Ritoban Kundu and Ritwik Bhaduri (SEIR-fansy) and Swapnil Mishra (ICM) ran the different models. Debasree Ray helped with devising analysis and writing strategies to address reviewer concerns in the revised version. Bhramar Mukherjee designed the study, revised the draft, provided strategic guidance and oversaw the analysis and the writing.

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