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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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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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