COVID-19 is an important pandemic at present affecting many millions of patients worldwide. A standard measure for COVID-19 containment is strict infection control by implementing lock down measures. The strict control is aimed at reducing the incidence of COVID-19. Additionally, the stringent control can also impact the incidence of other diseases such as influenza\(^1\). The situation in Thailand, an Indochina country, is the best example\(^1\).

The authors reappraised the public data on the effect of COVID-19 lock down on the incidence of an important paediatric disease, rotavirus infection. Rotavirus is a gastrointestinal pathogen that is transmitted via contaminated food and water\(^2\).

From reappraisal of available data from Thailand\(^1\), the incidence of rotavirus infection dramatically reduced and reached zero after COVID-19 lock down (Figure 1). Lockdown started in the 9\(^{th}\) week of 2020, complete lockdown being used in the first month and partial open/off lockdown in the following months. On the other hand, COVID-19 incidence initially increased after the lockdown before a slower reduction occurred, the incidence never coming down to zero (Figure 1). In fact, lock down decreases the chance of close contact in a crowded environment. School closure is also a common measure which can significantly reduce the chances of children getting diseases from the schools.

References


*Pathum Sookaromdee\(^1\); Viroj Wiwanitkit\(^2\)
\(^1\)Private Academic Consultant,
\(^2\)Honorary Professor, Dr. DY Patil University, Pune, India

*Correspondence: pathumsook@gamil.com

orcid.org/ 0000-0002-8859-5322