

Review of: "Real-World Efficacy of N95, Surgical, and Cloth Masks in Mitigating SARS-CoV-2 Respiratory Infections: A Comprehensive Comparative Study"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This study aims to compare the efficacy of three types of masks—N95, cloth, and surgical—in a large-scale, community-based experiment in Tokyo, Japan. The study involved 1,000 volunteers for each mask type. Subjects were given the liberty to select the type of mask they preferred to wear. This procedure was carried out for a duration of one month (participants undergo a PCR test every three days). The primary outcome was the cumulative number of infections per 1,000 mask wearers for each mask type. The N95 masks show the slowest rate of increase in the cumulative number of infections over the 30-day period, followed by the surgical masks, and then the cloth masks. The study is well conducted and the paper is worth to be published.

We are kindly asking the authors:

- to elaborate the recruitment strategy,
- to show the demographic and job characteristics of participants,
- to demonstrate the differences between three groups of participants.

Regards,