

Restriction on Serving Alcoholic Beverages Following the Spread of Covid-19 and its Effectiveness in Preventing the Spread of the Disease

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Abstract

Covid-19, which caused by SARS-CoV-2, began to spread in Japan in March 2020, and it has yet to show any signs of abating. In particular, transmission of SARS-CoV-2, especially to Delta and Omicron caused explosive infection, and countries were forced to take various policies, including lockdowns. In Japan, the lockdown was not implemented, Instead, however, restrictions on the serving of alcoholic beverages and voluntary curfew were imposed. The restrictions on the serving of alcoholic beverages placed a significant economic burden on breweries and distributors, but it remains to be seen whether the restrictions have halted the spread of the disease. However, it has not yet been analyzed whether the restrictions on the serving of alcohol have prevented the spread of the disease. In this study, we used the SIR model, which has long been used to analyze trends in infectious diseases, to examine whether restrictions on the serving of alcoholic beverages contributed to the prevention of the spread of infectious diseases. Empirical analysis of the SIR model using a state-space model indicated that the restriction of serving alcoholic beverages may not necessarily prevent the spread of covid-19 for both Delta and Omicron strains.

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