

Appendix S2: Search Criteria

Search Number	Search terms	Number of articles
Exposure (transportation) terms		
1	exp Transportation/	51375
2	exp Travel/	20435
3	Aircraft/ or Airports/ or Aviation/	10461
4	travel.mp	31166
5	commut*.mp	1769
6	passenger*.mp.	5608
7	"mass transport".mp	1699
8	touris*.mp.	3852
9	transit.mp.	22848
10	airplane*.mp	866
11	aeroplane*.mp	119
12	aircraft*.mp.	9434
13	fligh*.mp	42546
14	(bus or buses).mp.	2236
15	(coach or coaches).mp	3097
16	rail*.mp	4875
17	(station or stations).mp.	20232
18	subway*.mp.	357
19	boat*.mp	2312
20	ship.mp.	3022
21	cruis*.mp.	1296
22	(ferry or ferries).mp.	397
23	sea.mp.	48375
24	maritime.mp	1516
Outcome (disease propagation) terms		
25	Pandemics/ or exp Disease Outbreaks/	66321
26	exp Communicable Diseases/	20471
27	Disease Transmission, Infectious/	5905
28	Basic Reproduction Number/	346
29	outbreak*.mp.	85871
30	pandemic*.mp	15207
31	spread*.mp	129045
32	transmi*.mp.	373415
33	"person to person".mp.	2048
34	person-to-person.mp.	2048
35	"human to human".mp	3299
36	human-to-human.mp.	3299
37	"basic reproduction number".mp	627
38	"attack rate".mp.	2210
Specific virus terms		
39	Influenza A virus/ or Influenza, Human/	45497

40	Coronavirus/	1220
41	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome/ or SARS Virus/	5201
42	influenza.mp.	0
43	flu.mp	8015
44	(influenza adj2 like).mp.	2624
45	(flu adj2 like).mp	1991
46	grippe.mp	1032
47	coronavirus.mp.	7575
48	"severe acute respiratory syndrome".mp	5615
49	SARS.mp.	6508
50	SARS-CoV.mp	1775
51	MERS-CoV.mp	91
52	"middle east respiratory syndrome".mp	80
Population terms		
53	limit to humans	773

Search terms designed for Medline, and then adapted for other databases.