
SIR Model for COVID-19 dynamics incorporating Clinical Management

Abstract

In this paper, a mathematical model for COVID-19 disease incorporating clinical management based on a system of Ordinary Differential Equations is developed. The existence of the steady states of the model are determined and the effective reproduction number derived using the next generation matrix approach. Stability analysis of the model is carried out to determine the conditions that favour the spread of COVID-19 disease in a given population. Sensitivity analysis of the model is carried out by use of the normalised forward sensitivity index (elasticity) which shows that the higher the rates of clinical management the lower the rate of infection. Numerical simulations carried out using MATLAB software showed that with high success of clinical management, there is low contact rate and low prevalence rate of the disease in the population.

Keywords: COVID-19, Clinical Management, Effective reproduction number.

2022 Mathematics Subject Classification:

1 Introduction

COVID-19 is a respiratory disease whose first outbreak was reported in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China, on 31st December, 2019. The disease is caused by a virus called Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2)[25]. COVID-19 mainly spreads via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or exhales. The droplets are transferred from both symptomatic and asymptomatic people to others through close personal contact such as touching or shaking hands, touching an object or surface with the virus on it, and subsequently touching one's face (that is eyes, ears, nose or mouth) with contaminated hands. People can also get the infection through breathing in droplets coughed by someone who is infected [18]. According to [19], sometimes the spread of COVID-19 can occur through airborne transmission whereby an infected person releases small droplets and particles with the virus that could stay in the air for minutes to hours and infect people who are further than 6 feet away from them. This is more often possible in enclosed spaces with poor ventilation and when you are exposed for a longer period of time. Airborne transmission of COVID-19 may also be possible in specific circumstances and settings in

which procedures or support treatments that generate aerosols are performed such as endotracheal intubation. The incubation period of COVID-19 is on average 4-5 days, but can be as long as 14 days [16].

According to the World Health Organization (WHO) report [15], worldwide, as of March 7th 2022, since the outbreak of COVID-19 was reported in December, 2019, there have been 448 million confirmed positive cases of COVID-19, including 6.01 million deaths and over 93.3 million who have recovered. In Africa, as of August 8th 2021, 7,075,119 confirmed positive cases have been reported with a total of over 3.27 million deaths. In Kenya, as of March 7th 2022, since the first case of COVID-19 was reported in March, 2020, 323,000 positive cases have been confirmed with a total of 5,641 death cases and over 188,000 who have recovered.

Clinical manifestations of COVID-19 are generally milder in children compared with adults. Infection categories range from asymptomatic infection, mild illness, moderate illness, severe illness, to critical illness. Asymptomatic infection stage individuals test positive for SARS-CoV-2 using a virological test (an antigen test). Mild illness individuals have various signs and symptoms such as low grade fever (about 100 degrees Fahrenheit), dry cough, fatigue, headache, gastrointestinal upset (vomiting and diarrhea), muscle pain, sore throat, nasal congestion/runny nose, loss of taste, and loss of smell. Moderate illness individuals show evidence of some difficulties in breathing, chills, deep cough and high grade fever of greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit. Severe illness individuals have chest discomfort problems, eye problems, bluish face/lips and some dermatological manifestations including rash on skin and discoloured lesions of the fingers/toes. Critical illness individuals have respiratory failure, septic shock, and/or multiple organ dysfunction [3, 8, 9, 24].

Diagnosis allows suspected people to understand whether they are infected or not. Additionally, it helps them to receive the care they need and take measures to cut back the probability of infecting others. If a person develops symptoms of COVID-19 disease and they have been exposed to the virus, s(he) should consult a doctor. The doctor will decide whether to conduct tests for COVID-19 based on individuals signs and symptoms. Screening is done at the first point of contact at the emergency department. Diagnosis of COVID-19 disease is typically made using Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) testing via nasal swab. However, because of false-negative test result rates of SARS-CoV-2 PCR testing of nasal swabs, laboratory findings may also be used to make a presumptive diagnosis. Specific diagnosis is by specific molecular tests on respiratory samples (throat swab/ nasopharyngeal swab/ sputum/ endotracheal aspirates), stool and in several cases, the blood. CT scans is more sensitive and specific [1, 11, 23, 26].

Various containment measures can be used to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 disease. These include; physical distancing of at least one meter apart between individuals, isolation of infected individuals, quarantine of exposed individuals, cessation of movements temporarily in the most affected areas, lockdown, cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces and objects, and temporal closure of social amenities [27]. It is believed that people with Underlying health conditions such as pulmonary hypertension, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory disease, immune compromised status, cancer, and obesity are at a high risk of becoming positive with COVID-19. Additionally, people who are categorized under other factors such as Demographic factor (Older cohort), Organ failure specifically the kidney, Weakened immune system (organ transplant patients, cancer patients and HIV/AIDS patients) and Clinical factors (decreased lymphocytes, and increased leucocytes) too are at a high risk of testing positive on COVID-19 [2].

In [11, 13], Clinical Management and Treatment for COVID-19 disease include measures taken to cater for individuals both in presymptomatic and symptomatic infection stages. Patients with mild illness may not initially require hospitalization and therefore can manage their illness at home in accordance to home-based care measures such as getting enough bed rest, staying in a separate isolated room, eating a balanced diet and maintaining water electrolyte balance. Patients with severe illness should be given supplemental oxygen immediately, they should then be closely

monitored for signs of clinical deterioration such as rapidly progressive respiratory failure and respond immediately with supportive care interventions. In patients with critical illness, Endotracheal intubation should be performed by a trained and experienced provider using airborne precautions, use of a conservative fluid management strategy where there is no evidence of shock, implementation of Mechanical ventilation, and ExtraCorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) in addition to the use of Repurposable drugs. Repurposable drugs on the other hand involves the use of Antiviral drugs, Anti-Inflammatory drugs, Antiparasitic drugs and Interferon therapy. According to [12], Recent studies done by Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and WHO show that we have; Pfizer-BioNTec, Stupnik V, VaxZevria (previously known as AstraZeneca), Sinovac (CoronaVac), and Johnson & Johnson vaccines.

The high numbers of COVID-19 related cases has led to the development of a couple of mathematical models to explain the various containment measures in the spread of COVID-19 disease for instance [5, 6, 21, 22].

Epidemiological research on COVID-19 has been marked with much activity for the past months. A mathematical model [14] of COVID-19 transmission dynamics and control strategy has been done. In this model, the spread of the disease largely depend on the contact rate, therefore, effort should be made to minimize unnecessary contact with COVID-19 infected individuals to reduce an outbreak. Additionally, it's possible to reduce the infection rate by adherence to appropriate containment measures such as physical distancing of at least one meter apart between individuals, isolation of infected individuals, quarantine of exposed individuals, cessation of movements temporarily in the most affected areas, lockdown, cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces and objects, and temporal closure of social amenities.

In [10], Optimal Control Analysis was done where Public Health Education was one of the parameters of investigation. In this model, public health education effort involved educating the public through social media, television, radio, and traditional rulers in the community on how to observe the various containment measures put in place to combat COVID-19 disease spread. It was deduced that awareness corrects the misconceptions and encourages the public to take appropriate control measures. Additionally, it reduces the number of exposed and infected individuals drastically within a short time.

In [4], A Mathematical Model for SARS-CoV-2 Infection with Treatment was developed. It was observed that the length of the dosing interval and the drug dose play a very decisive role to control and eradicate COVID-19 disease infection. Additionally, if the treatment regimen is not adjusted properly, the therapy is not effective at all.

Clinical Management, which is a combination of both preventive and treatment measures has been presented theoretically. Thus, this study develops a mathematical model of COVID-19 disease incorporating clinical management based on a system of Ordinary Differential Equations.

2 The Model

We formulate a model in which the total human population under study denoted as $N(t)$ comprises of four categories namely; Susceptible population (S), Asymptomatic infected population (I_A), Symptomatic infected population (I_S), and Recovered population (R). Susceptible individuals are entirely recruited by immigration at per capita rate Λ . Susceptible individual transits from compartment S to compartment I_A at the rate λ (the effective force of infection). Both I_A and I_S are infectious. An individual could move from compartment I_A to I_S at the rate τ (transition rate from I_A to I_S) if they show symptoms. Upon treatment, the infected individual recovers at the rate β (recovery rate). μ and δ are the natural mortality rate and disease mortality rate respectively.

The model assumed; the recruitment Λ into the population is mainly by immigration, demographic processes of birth are negligible, individuals recover at a constant rate β , the model assumes a heterogenous population approximation, and an individual gains temporal immunity after recovery.

The Model can then be expressed by the following system of Ordinary Differential Equations that represent the rates of changes of population densities of S, I_A, I_S, R with respect to time.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dS}{dt} &= \Lambda - \mu S - \lambda S, \\ \frac{dI_A}{dt} &= \lambda S - \mu I_A - \tau I_A, \\ \frac{dI_S}{dt} &= \tau I_A - \mu I_S - \delta I_S - \beta I_S, \\ \frac{dR}{dt} &= \beta I_S - \mu R.\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

with the initial conditions

$$\begin{aligned}S(0) &= s_0 \geq 0, \\ I_A(0) &= I_{A_0} \geq 0, \\ I_S(0) &= I_{S_0} \geq 0, \\ R(0) &= r_0 \geq 0.\end{aligned}\tag{2}$$

where the total population at time t is given by,

$$N(t) = S(t) + I_A(t) + I_S(t) + R(t)\tag{3}$$

The force of infection λ^c is defined by:

$$\lambda^c = \frac{\epsilon \phi \alpha (\eta I_A + I_S)}{N}.\tag{4}$$

such that ϵ is the probability rate of acquiring COVID-19, ϕ is the contact rate with infected individuals, and η is the modification parameter that denotes the most infectious group of individuals in the population. Let κ be the probability of success of clinical management against COVID-19 such that $0 \leq \kappa < 1$. Further we let α to represent $(1-\kappa)$.

3 Model Analysis

We study the positivity and boundedness of the solutions of the system (1) with initial conditions (2). Since we are dealing with human population, all population compartments should be nonnegative $\forall t > 0$ in the feasible region Γ where $S, I_A, I_S, R \in \Gamma \subset \mathfrak{R}_+^4$ and it can be shown that $N(t) < \Lambda + \omega$ for all large t where ω is an arbitrary small positive constant. Thus the set of solutions are ultimately bounded. Thus, the model equation (1) is epidemiologically well posed in the region Γ .

The effective reproduction number, R_e , computed using the next generation matrix approach for equation (1) is given by;

$$R_e = \frac{\epsilon \phi \alpha \eta (\mu + \delta + \beta) + \epsilon \phi \alpha \tau}{(\mu + \tau)(\mu + \delta + \beta)}\tag{5}$$

3.1 Existence of equilibrium points

The disease free equilibrium points of the model are its steady state solutions in the absence of infection or disease that is when $I_A=I_S=R=0$ while endemic equilibrium points of the model are its steady state solutions in the presence of infection or disease in a given population that is when $S, I_A, I_S, R \neq 0$.

To obtain the equilibrium points for the model we set the right hand side to zero,

$$\begin{aligned}\Lambda - \mu S - \lambda S &= 0 \\ \lambda S - \mu I_A - \tau I_A &= 0 \\ \tau I_A - \mu I_S - \delta I_S - \beta I_S &= 0 \\ \beta I_S - \mu R &= 0.\end{aligned}\tag{6}$$

At Disease Free Equilibrium, we have that $I_A=I_S=R=0$. Therefore the DFE is given by;

$$DFE = \left(\frac{\Lambda}{\mu}, 0, 0, 0\right).\tag{7}$$

To calculate Endemic Equilibrium, we have that $S, I_A, I_S, R \neq 0$

$$\begin{aligned}S^* &= \frac{\Lambda N}{\epsilon\phi\alpha\left[\left(\frac{\eta}{\tau+\mu}\left(\frac{\mu N}{\epsilon\phi\alpha} + \eta\Lambda N + \frac{N\tau\mu}{\epsilon\phi\alpha}\right)\right) + \left[\frac{\tau}{(\tau+\mu)(\mu+\delta+\beta)}\left(\frac{\mu N}{\epsilon\phi\alpha} + \eta\Lambda N + \frac{N\tau\mu}{\epsilon\phi\alpha}\right)\right]\right] + \mu N} \\ I_A^* &= \frac{1}{\tau+\mu}\left(\frac{\mu N}{\epsilon\phi\alpha} + \eta\Lambda N + \frac{N\tau\mu}{\epsilon\phi\alpha}\right) \\ I_S^* &= \frac{\tau}{(\tau+\mu)(\mu+\delta+\beta)}\left(\frac{\mu N}{\epsilon\phi\alpha} + \eta\Lambda N + \frac{N\tau\mu}{\epsilon\phi\alpha}\right) \\ R^* &= \frac{\beta\tau}{\mu(\tau+\mu)(\mu+\delta+\beta)}\left(\frac{\mu N}{\epsilon\phi\alpha} + \eta\Lambda N + \frac{N\tau\mu}{\epsilon\phi\alpha}\right)\end{aligned}$$

Therefore the Endemic Equilibrium EE (S^*, I_A^*, I_S^*, R^*) is given by;

$$EE = (S^*, I_A^*, I_S^*, R^*).\tag{8}$$

3.2 Local stability analysis of the Disease-free Equilibrium (DFE)

The Jacobi of the system (1) is given by;

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} -\left(\mu + \frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha(\eta I_A + I_S)}{N}\right) & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha(\eta I_A + I_S)}{N} & -\left(\frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha\eta S}{N} + \mu + \tau\right) & \frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha S}{N} & 0 \\ 0 & \tau & -(\mu + \delta + \beta) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \beta & -\mu \end{bmatrix}$$

We now evaluate the Jacobi at DFE. We have that;

$$J_{DFE} = \begin{bmatrix} -\mu & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\left(\frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha\eta \frac{\Lambda}{\mu}}{N} + \mu + \tau\right) & \frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha \frac{\Lambda}{\mu}}{N} & 0 \\ 0 & \tau & -(\mu + \delta + \beta) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \beta & -\mu \end{bmatrix}$$

We notice that;

$$\lambda_1 = -\mu, \text{ is an eigen value}$$

Further, we have;

$$J_{DFE} = \begin{bmatrix} -(\frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha\eta\Lambda}{N\mu} + \mu + \tau) & \frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha\Lambda}{N\mu} & 0 \\ \tau & -(\mu + \delta + \beta) & 0 \\ 0 & \beta & -\mu \end{bmatrix}$$

Clearly,

$$\lambda_2 = -\mu$$

We now analyze a 2 by 2 matrix given by;

$$J_{DFE} = \begin{bmatrix} -(\frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha\eta\Lambda}{N\mu} + \mu + \tau) & \frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha\Lambda}{N\mu} \\ \tau & -(\mu + \delta + \beta) \end{bmatrix}$$

Clearly, the trace is negative. We now find the determinant where we have;

$$(\mu + \delta + \beta)(\frac{N\epsilon\phi\eta\Lambda}{\mu} + \mu + \tau) - \frac{\tau N\epsilon\phi\alpha\Lambda}{\mu} > 0$$

For the determinant to be positive, we have that;

$$(\mu + \delta + \beta)(\frac{N\epsilon\phi\eta\Lambda}{\mu} + \mu + \tau) > \frac{\tau N\epsilon\phi\alpha\Lambda}{\mu}$$

or

$$\frac{\tau N\epsilon\phi\alpha\Lambda}{(\mu + \delta + \beta)(N\epsilon\phi\eta\Lambda + \mu + \tau)} < 1$$

Incorporating R_e , we have that;

$$\frac{1}{\epsilon\phi\eta(\mu + \delta + \beta)}(R_e - \frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha\eta}{\mu + \tau}) < 1$$

which is negative provided that $R_e < 1$. The determinant of the jacobian matrix at DFE remains positive provided that $R_e < 1$, the model has a stable DFE when $R_e < 1$. This implies that the DFE is locally asymptotically stable. The prevalence ratio of COVID-19 infectives in the population would decrease and approach the value 0, therefore, the COVID-19 disease epidemic would die out of the population with time.

3.3 Local stability analysis of the endemic equilibrium (EE) of the model

A disease is endemic in a population if it persists in the population.

$$J_{EE} = \begin{bmatrix} -(\mu + \frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha(\eta b + c)}{N}) & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha(\eta b + c)}{N} & -(\frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha\eta a}{N} + \mu + \tau) & \frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha a}{N} & 0 \\ 0 & \tau & -(\mu + \delta + \beta) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \beta & -\mu \end{bmatrix}$$

where;

$$\begin{aligned} a &= \frac{\Lambda N}{\epsilon\phi\alpha\left[\frac{\eta}{\tau+\mu}\left(\frac{\mu N}{\epsilon\phi\alpha} + \eta\Lambda N + \frac{N\tau\mu}{\epsilon\phi\alpha}\right)\right] + \left[\frac{\tau}{(\tau+\mu)(\mu+\delta+\beta)}\left(\frac{\mu N}{\epsilon\phi\alpha} + \eta\Lambda N + \frac{N\tau\mu}{\epsilon\phi\alpha}\right)\right] + \mu N} \\ b &= \frac{1}{\tau+\mu}\left(\frac{\mu N}{\epsilon\phi\alpha} + \eta\Lambda N + \frac{N\tau\mu}{\epsilon\phi\alpha}\right) \\ c &= \frac{\tau}{(\tau+\mu)(\mu+\delta+\beta)}\left(\frac{\mu N}{\epsilon\phi\alpha} + \eta\Lambda N + \frac{N\tau\mu}{\epsilon\phi\alpha}\right) \end{aligned}$$

We notice that;

$$\lambda_1 = -\left(\mu + \frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha(\eta b + c)}{N}\right)$$

Further;

$$J_{EE} = \begin{bmatrix} -\left(\frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha\eta a}{N} + \mu + \tau\right) & \frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha a}{N} & 0 \\ \tau & -(\mu + \delta + \beta) & 0 \\ 0 & \beta & -\mu \end{bmatrix}$$

Clearly;

$$\lambda_2 = -\mu$$

We now analyze the 2 by 2 matrix given by;

$$J_{EE} = \begin{bmatrix} -\left(\frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha\eta a}{N} + \mu + \tau\right) & \frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha a}{N} \\ \tau & -(\mu + \delta + \beta) \end{bmatrix}$$

The trace is negative. We now find the determinant where we have;

$$(\mu + \delta + \beta)\left(\frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha\eta a}{N} + \mu + \tau\right) - \frac{\tau\epsilon\phi\alpha a}{N} > 0$$

For determinant to be positive, we have that;

$$\mu + \delta + \beta\left(\frac{\epsilon\phi\alpha\eta a}{N} + \mu + \tau\right) > \frac{\tau\epsilon\phi\alpha a}{N}$$

Incorporating R_e , we have that;

$$\left[\frac{R_e}{\epsilon\phi\alpha\eta(\mu + \delta + \beta)} - \frac{1}{(\epsilon\phi\alpha\eta)(\mu + \tau)}\right] > 1$$

The determinant of the jacobian matrix at EE remains positive provided that $R_e > 1$. The model has a locally asymptotically stable EE when $R_e > 1$. This implies that COVID-19 infection incidences are increasing thus, COVID-19 disease epidemic would certainly develop.

3.4 Global stability of the Disease-free Equilibrium (DFE)

For global stability of the DFE, the technique used by Castillo was employed [7]. There are two conditions that if met, the global asymptotic stability of the disease free equilibrium point is guaranteed. Equation (1) can be written in the form:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dX}{dt} &= K(X, Z), \\ \frac{dZ}{dt} &= G(X, Z) \end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

where $X \in \mathbb{R}^2$ and $X=(S,R)$ denotes the number of uninfected individuals and $Z \in \mathbb{R}^2$ where $Z=\{I\}$ denotes the number of infected individuals. DFE = $(\frac{\Lambda}{\mu}, 0, 0, 0)$ where

$$X^* = \frac{\Lambda}{\mu}$$

conditions (10) may be met to guarantee global asymptotic stability.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dX}{dt} &= K(X, 0), \text{ DFE is globally asymptotically stable,} \\ G(X, Z) &= AZ - \hat{G}(X, Z), \hat{G}(X, Z) \geq 0 \forall (X, Z) \in \Gamma \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

where $A=D_z G(DFE, 0)$ is an M Matrix and Γ is the region where the model has biological meaning.

Theorem

If system (1) satisfies conditions (10), then the fixed point DFE = $(\frac{\Lambda}{\mu}, 0, 0, 0)$ is a globally asymptotically stable equilibrium of the system (1) provided that $R_e < 1$.

Proof

Consider $K(X, 0)=(\Lambda - \mu S)$ and $G(X, Z)=AZ - \hat{G}(X, Z)$ where

$$A = -(\mu + \delta + \beta) \quad (11)$$

and

$$\hat{G}(X, Z) = -\frac{\epsilon \phi \alpha (\eta I_A + I_S) S}{N} \quad (12)$$

Since all the conditions in Equation (10) are not satisfied because $\hat{G}(X, Z) < 0$, the DFE may not be globally asymptotically stable.

This implies that we anticipate an outbreak of COVID-19 disease when particular conditions which favour the outbreak of the disease are prevailing.

3.5 Global stability of the Endemic Equilibrium (EE)

The global stability of the endemic equilibrium may be obtained by means of Lyapunov's direct method and LaSalle's invariance principle [17]. Consider the non-linear Lyapunov function

$$L : (S, I_A, I_S, R) \in \Gamma \in \mathbb{R}_+^4 : S, I_A, I_S, R > 0 \quad (13)$$

where

$$L : (S, I_A, I_S, R) = \lambda(S - S^* - S^* \log \frac{S}{S^*}) + b + c + d \quad (14)$$

in which b, c and d are given by the following respectively.

$$\begin{aligned} b &= \lambda(I_A - I_A^* - I_A^* \log \frac{I_A}{I_A^*}) \\ c &= \lambda(I_S - I_S^* - I_S^* \log \frac{I_S}{I_S^*}) \\ d &= \lambda(R - R^* - R^* \log \frac{R}{R^*}) \end{aligned}$$

where L is in C^1 in the interior of Γ . EE is the global minimum of L: $(I_A, I_S, R)=0$. The time derivative of L is given by

$$\frac{dL}{dt} = \dot{L} = \lambda(1 - \frac{S^*}{S}) \frac{dS}{dt} + \lambda(1 - \frac{I_A^*}{I_A}) \frac{dI_A}{dt} + \lambda(1 - \frac{I_S^*}{I_S}) \frac{dI_S}{dt} + \lambda(1 - \frac{R^*}{R}) \frac{dR}{dt} \quad (15)$$

with the derivatives of equation S, I_A, I_S, R defined in equation (1.1) and by using the EE points, $\dot{L} < 0$. We see that $\dot{L} = 0$ iff $S=S^*, I_A=I_A^*, I_S=I_S^*$ and $R=R^*$. Thus the largest compact invariant set in $(S, I_A, I_S, R) \in \Gamma : L=0$ is the singleton EE, where EE is the Endemic Equilibrium. Thus, EE is globally asymptotically stable in the interior of the region Γ .

This implies that clinical management produces desired results in terms of COVID-19 intervention. Therefore, COVID-19 disease transmission levels can be kept quite low or manageable incorporating clinical management.

4 Sensitivity Analysis

Sensitivity analysis of R_e with respect to the model parameter (α) is carried out in order to determine the impact of clinical management in COVID-19 transmission. To perform sensitivity analysis, we used the normalised forward sensitivity index (elasticity). The normalised forward sensitivity index of the effective reproduction number R_e in equation (5) with respect to clinical management (sensitivity parameter) α is given by;

$$\Gamma_{\alpha}^{R_e} = \frac{\partial R_e}{\partial \alpha} \times \frac{\alpha}{R_e} = 1 \quad (16)$$

Meaning that the higher the rates of clinical management, the lower the rate of infection.

5 Numerical Simulation

Numerical simulations of the developed COVID-19 Model were carried out in order to evaluate the impact of clinical management in the spread of COVID-19 disease. The parameters used in the simulation are either obtained from literature or estimated.

5.1 Parameters

Table 1: Parameter values for the Model

Parameter symbol	Description	Value	Source
λ	Force of infection	0.5	Varies
μ	Natural mortality rate	0.02	Estimated
τ	Transition rate from I_A to I_S	0.002	Estimated
δ	Disease mortality rate	0.03	Estimated
β	Recovery rate	0.02	Estimated
ϵ	Rate of acquiring COVID-19	0.003	[20]
θ	Contact rate with infected people	0.005	Varies
η	Modification Parameter	0.005	Varies
κ	Probability of success of CM	$0 < \kappa < 1$	Assumed
α	CM parameter	0.03	Varies

5.2 Simulation

The NonStandard Finite Difference Method (NSFD) is used for the numerical solution of the model equation (1). NSFD is an iterative method in which we get closer to solution through iteration. Let the nonstandard ODEs be given as:

$$y_k' = f[t, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n] \quad (17)$$

where $k= 1, 2, \dots, n$. Incorporating NSFD method for numerical solution for equation (1), we have that;

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{S_{n+1} - S_n}{\Delta t} &= \Lambda - \mu S_n - \lambda S_n, \\ \frac{l_{An+1} - l_{An}}{\Delta t} &= \lambda S_n - \mu l_{An} - \tau l_{An}, \\ \frac{l_{Sn+1} - l_{Sn}}{\Delta t} &= \tau l_{An} - \mu l_{Sn} - \delta l_{Sn} - \beta l_{Sn}, \\ \frac{R_{n+1} - R_n}{\Delta t} &= \beta l_{Sn} - \mu R_n. \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

We use the following initial conditions assuming that we are working on a population (N) estimate of 1000 individuals; $S(0)=100$, $I_A(0)=200$, $I_S(0)=500$ and $R(0)=200$. Table (1) represent the corresponding predicted parameter values using Kenya COVID-19 data. The figure below represents the projections of data fitted on model equation (1).

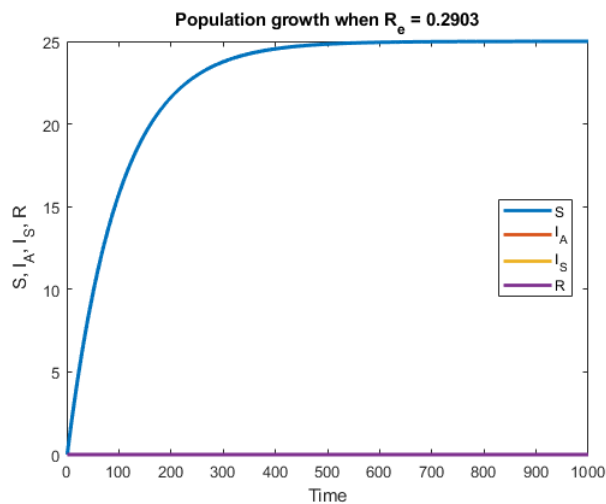


Figure 1: Population growth when $R_e = 0.2903$

Figure (1) shows the solutions of system (1) when $R_e < 1$, in the absence of infection. EE is globally asymptotically stable as shown in subsection (3.5). From figure (1) we observe that population grows to carrying capacity in the absence of the infection.

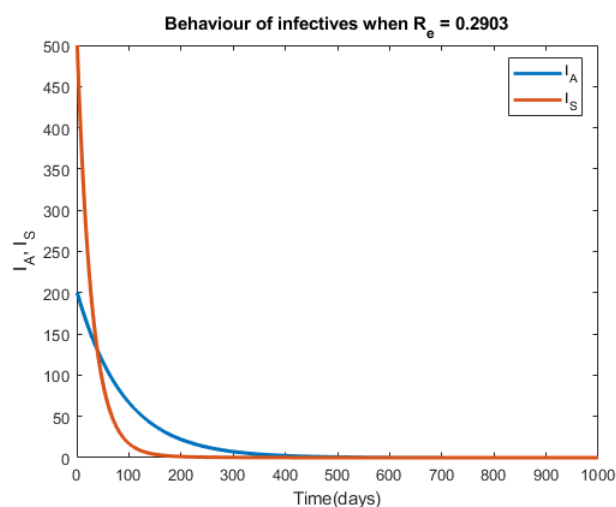


Figure 2: Behaviour of infectives when $R_e = 0.2903$.

Figure (2) shows the solution of system (1) when the effective reproduction number, $R_e < 1$. The number of infectives decrease and approach the value 0. This implies that the disease would die out of the population with time. With high success of clinical management, there is low contact and prevalence rates hence infective in the population decreases sharply over time. On contrary, low clinical management leads to high contact rate with the infected and hence a high disease prevalence in the population.

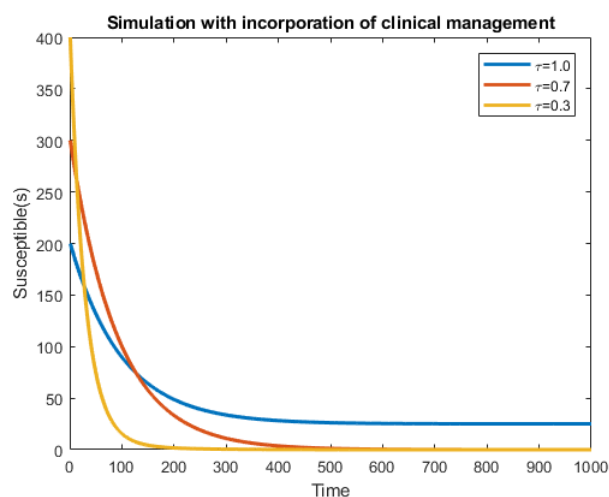


Figure 3: Simulation with incorporation of clinical management when $\tau = 0.3, 0.7, 1.0$.

Figure (3) shows graph of susceptible(s) against time in days. With high success of clinical management there is low contact and prevalence rates hence the susceptible in the population decreases with time. On the other hand, when clinical management is low, the number of susceptible individuals will be high.

6 Discussion

The purpose of the study was to explore the need for combined efforts to combat COVID-19 disease. DFE is locally asymptotically stable when $R_e < 1$ and this implies that the prevalence ratio of COVID-19 infectives in the population would decrease and approach the value 0, therefore, the COVID-19 disease epidemic would die out of the population with time. EE is locally asymptotically stable when $R_e > 1$ implying that COVID-19 infection incidences are increasing thus, COVID-19 disease epidemic would certainly develop.

From the numerical simulations, we observe that with high success of clinical management, there is low contact rate and low prevalence rate hence the infective in the population decreases sharply over time. With low levels of clinical management there is high contact rate with the infected and hence a high disease prevalence in the population.

7 Recommendation

The study was limited to clinical management as an intervention measure therefore a study needs to be carried out incorporating other combined efforts as intervention strategies and make comparisons.

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