

## Global spotlight 7.2: Key additions for the second half of July 2021



There are three newly added evidence syntheses and five updates to living evidence syntheses that are already included in the public-health measures parts of the COVID-END inventory of ‘best’ evidence syntheses\*, and 19 updates to living evidence syntheses that are already included in the clinical management parts of the inventory.

\*COVID-END assigns ‘best’ status to evidence syntheses based on an assessment of how up-to-date they are (i.e., the date of the last search, with priority given to living reviews), quality (using the AMSTAR tool), and whether there is an evidence profile available (e.g., GRADE).

Taxonomy section	Title	Type of synthesis	Criteria for best evidence synthesis		
			Date of last search	Quality (AMSTAR) rating	Evidence profile (e.g., GRADE) available
Public-health measures	<a href="#">[AstraZeneca to complete vaccination scheme started with BioNTech/Pfizer BNT16b2 at 28 days vs two doses of BioNTech/Pfizer BNT16b2 separated by 28 days] Compared to vaccination with two doses of the BNT16b2 vaccine, having a second dose of AstraZeneca after a first dose of BNT16b2 may increase the risk of any adverse event, while the incidence of serious adverse events is uncertain</a>	Newly added living review	2021-07-23	10/11	Yes
Public-health measures	<a href="#">[BioNTech/Pfizer BNT16b2 to complete vaccination scheme started with AstraZeneca at 28 days vs two doses AstraZeneca separated by 28 days] Compared to vaccination with two doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine 28 days apart, having a second dose of BNT16b2 after a first dose of AstraZeneca may not increase the risk of any adverse event, while the incidence of serious adverse events is uncertain</a>	Newly added living review	2021-07-23	10/11	Yes
Public-health measures	<a href="#">Limited evidence suggests that immunocompromised patients could produce an attenuated immune response after being vaccinated against COVID-19 [Review of observational studies of unclear quality]</a>	Newly added full review	2021-03-10	4/9	No
Public-health measures	<a href="#">[CoronaVac vaccine] Compared to placebo, vaccination with CoronaVac may reduce the incidence of symptomatic cases of COVID-19 by 50%, close to the lowest level deemed effective by the WHO and it may substantially reduce the incidence of hospitalization or severe diseases due to COVID-19; the evidence for any difference in serious adverse events is uncertain, although the vaccination probably increases the incidence of any adverse event</a>	Update to living review	2021-07-23	10/11	Yes
Public-health measures	<a href="#">[BioNTech/Pfizer against variants of concern] BioNTech/Pfizer vaccine probably prevents symptomatic infection from the Alpha, Beta Gamma and Delta variants of concern, it probably prevents severe disease, death, and transmission from the Alpha variant of concern, whereas it may prevent symptomatic infection from the Gamma variant of concern</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-21	7/9	No

Public-health measures	<a href="#">[CoronaVac/Sinovac vaccine againsts variants of concern] Coronavac/Sinovac vaccine may prevent invection from the Gamma variant of concern</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-21	7/9	No
Public-health measures	<a href="#">[Johnson &amp; Johnson against variants of concern] Johnson &amp; Johnson vaccine probably prevents severe disease from the Beta variant of concern</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-21	7/9	No
Public-health measures	<a href="#">[Oxford/AstraZeneca against variants of concern] Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine probably prevents infection from the Alpha and Delta variants of concern, and it may not prevent infection from the Beta variant of concern</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-21	7/9	No
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	<a href="#">[Corticosteroids] Adding corticosteroids to standard care slightly reduces mortality and it may reduce disease progression; its effects on other outcomes are uncertain</a>	Update to living review	2021-07-23	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	<a href="#">[Ivermectin] In mild outpatients or hospitalized patients, adding ivermectin to standard care may have no effect on mortality at 28 days, clinical improvement and disease progression, and it may not increase the risk of serious adverse events</a>	Update to living review	2021-07-23	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	<a href="#">[Remdesivir] in hospitalized COVID-19 patients, remdesivir probably reduces disease progression, probably makes little or no difference in mortality at 28 days and it may slightly increase clinical improvement; it probably does not increase the incidence of adverse events</a>	Update to living review	2021-07-23	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	<a href="#">Among the 129 therapeutic options that have been studied in clinical trials, evidence shows that steroids, tocilizumab, REGEN-CoV, sotrovimab and baricitinib are the only alternatives that may have an effect on mortality and other clinical outcomes among COVID-19 patients; remdesivir may improve time to symptom resolution, but its effects on other outcomes may be of small relevance, whereas more evidence is needed to confirm the early effects shown by colchicine, lenzilumab, tofacitinib and stem cells</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-14	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	<a href="#">[Dimethyl sulfoxide (DSMO)] The effects of using DSMO to treat COVID-19 patients are uncertain</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-14	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	<a href="#">[Hydroxychloroquine] Hydroxychloroquine may not reduce the risk of infection in individuals exposed to COVID-19 and it may slightly increase serious adverse events</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-14	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	<a href="#">[Hydroxychloroquine] Using hydroxychloroquine probably has no effect on mortality, invasive mechanical ventilation and time to symptom resolution among COVID-19 patients, and some studies show an increase in mortality</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-14	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	<a href="#">[Imatinib] The effects of using imatinib to treat COVID-19 are uncertain</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-14	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	<a href="#">[Lopinavir + ritonavir] Using lopinavir + ritonavir probably does not reduce mortality and may not increase the severe adverse events in COVID-19 patients</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-14	7/10	Yes

Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	<a href="#">[Melatonin] The effects of using melatonin to treat COVID-19 patients are uncertain</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-14	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	<a href="#">[Niclosamide] The effects of using niclosamide to treat COVID-19 are uncertain</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-14	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	<a href="#">[Probiotics] The effects of using probiotics to treat COVID-19 patients are uncertain</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-14	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	<a href="#">[Proxalutamide] Using proxalutamide may reduce mortality, mechanical ventilation, and may improve time to symptom resolution in COVID-19 patients</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-14	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	<a href="#">[Quercetin] The effects of using quercetin to treat COVID-19 patients are uncertain</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-14	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	<a href="#">[Sarilumab] Sarilumab may not reduce mortality and may reduce mechanical ventilation requirements without increasing severe adverse events in patients with severe COVID-19 disease</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-14	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	<a href="#">[Siltuximab] The effects of siltuximab for COVID-19 patients are uncertain</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-14	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	<a href="#">[Tenofovir + emtricitabine] The effects of tenofovir + emtricitabine to treat COVID-19 patients are uncertain</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-14	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	<a href="#">[Tocilizumab] Using tocilizumab in patients with severe COVID-19 disease reduces mortality and the need for mechanical ventilation, whereas it probably does not increase severe adverse events</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-14	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	<a href="#">Using convalescent plasma in COVID-19 patients does not reduce mortality, the need for mechanical ventilation or time to symptom resolution, and probably increases severe adverse events</a>	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-14	7/10	Yes