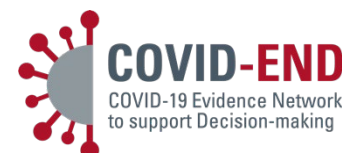


Global spotlight 8.1: Key additions for the first half of August 2021



There are 13 newly added evidence syntheses and one update to a living evidence synthesis that is already included in the public-health measures parts of the COVID-END inventory of ‘best’ evidence syntheses*, four newly added evidence syntheses and five updates to living evidence syntheses that are already included in the clinical management parts of the inventory, and four newly added evidence syntheses in the health-system arrangements part 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	[CanSino] No evidence from phase III randomized controlled trials has been reported to enable an assessment of the safety and efficacy of the CanSino vaccine	Newly added living review	2021-07-12	8/11	Yes
Public-health measures	[Covaxin] No evidence from phase III randomized controlled trials has been reported to enable an assessment of the safety and efficacy of the Covaxin vaccine	Newly added living review	2021-07-12	6/9	Yes
Public-health measures	[EpiVacCorona] No evidence from phase III randomized controlled trials has been reported to enable an assessment the safety and efficacy of the EpiVacCorona vaccine	Newly added living review	2021-07-12	6/9	Yes
Public-health measures	[Novavax] Vaccination with Novavax reduces the risk of contracting COVID-19 and probably reduces severe disease	Newly added living review	2021-07-12	8/11	Yes
Public-health measures	[Sinopharm - WIBP] No evidence from phase III randomized controlled trials has been reported to enable and assessment of the safety and efficacy of the Sinopharm - WIBP vaccine	Newly added living review	2021-07-12	6/9	Yes
Public-health measures	[Zifivax] No evidence from phase III randomized controlled trials has been reported to enable an assessment of the safety and efficacy of the Zifivax vaccine	Newly added living review	2021-07-12	6/9	Yes
Public-health measures	Vaccination in individuals who had a prior COVID-19 infection probably results in a stronger humoral response (e.g., binding and neutralizing antibodies) compared to those with no prior infection; the effects of vaccines on individuals with previous infection on other outcomes are uncertain	Newly added living rapid review	2021-06-21	9/10	Yes
Public-health measures	Evidence shows that age might be a factor that influences the immune response after the first dose of an mRNA-vaccine [Review of studies of low to moderate quality]	Newly added living rapid review	2021-05-11	8/9	No
Public-health measures	Evidence shows that high transmission of variants of concern in the same household is concerning, warranting public health measures [Review of studies of low to moderate quality]	Newly added living rapid review	2021-05-11	8/9	No
Public-health measures	Evidence shows that non-pharmaceutical interventions (including lockdowns and	Newly added living rapid review	2021-05-11	8/9	No

	quarantines) appear to be required to limit transmission during vaccine rollout to reduce the spread of variants of concern; data on the prevalence and incidence of variants of concern is needed to make decisions about quarantining travellers [Review of studies of low to moderate quality]				
Public-health measures	Evidence shows that physical distancing and other non-pharmaceutical interventions are important to reduce the spread of variants of concern in the community [Review of studies of low to moderate quality]	Newly added living rapid review	2021-05-11	8/9	No
Public-health measures	No robust evidence was found on adjusting personal protective equipment procedures for health workers in response to the spread of variants of concern	Newly added living rapid review	2021-05-11	8/9	No
Public-health measures	A single of full dose of Astra Zeneca or Pfizer vaccines may prevent household transmission and asymptomatic infection after 14 days of vaccination [Review of experimental and observational studies of variable quality]	Newly added living rapid review	2021-05-04	6/9	No
Public-health measures	[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	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-28	7/9	No
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[All drugs] Hydroxychloroquine has been the only prophylactic treatment with evidence available, showing that it probably does not have an effect on developing symptomatic COVID-19, hospitalizations and deaths	Newly added living review	Not yet available	8/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	Among all the treatments for COVID-19, tocilizumab appears to be the option that is superior to other treatments in terms of mortality, and interferon appears to be the option that is superior in terms of clinical improvement	Newly added living review	Not yet available	8/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Remdesivir] Remdesivir may not have an effect on mortality, but its effects may vary by oxygen requirements at baseline; it may slightly reduce the need for mechanical ventilation and probably increases clinical improvement	Newly added living rapid review	2021-05-10	7/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Tocilizumab] Among hospitalized patients, tocilizumab reduces the risk of mechanical ventilation and probably does not have an effect on mortality	Newly added living review	2021-02-24	8/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Anakinra] In hospitalized COVID-19 patients, anakinra may slightly reduce mortality and disease progression, while it probably increase clinical improvement; it probably does not increase the adverse events	Update to living review	2021-07-30	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Azithromycin] In terms of mortality, azithromycin does not have an effect among hospitalized patients, and may not have an effect in mild outpatients; it probably does not have an effect on clinical improvement in hospitalized	Update to living review	2021-07-30	10/11	Yes

	patients and it probably increase the risk of adverse events in mild outpatients				
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Bamlanivimab] In hospitalized COVID-19 patients, bamlanivimab may make little or no difference in mortality, clinical improvement, and disease progression; it may not increase the risk of serious adverse events	Update to living review	2021-07-30	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	Compared to standard-dose prophylactic coagulation, using intermediate-dose prophylactic anticoagulation may make little or no difference in terms of mortality, clinical improvement and serious adverse events among hospitalized COVID-19 patients	Update to living review	2021-07-30	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Nitazoxanide] In mild outpatients and hospitalized patients with COVID-19, nitazoxanide may not have an effect on clinical improvement; its effects on other outcomes are uncertain	Update to living review	2021-07-30	10/11	Yes
Health-system arrangements	Twelve international care models have been found to treat long COVID-19 symptoms, including a coordination unit, primary care pathways, multidisciplinary rehabilitation and specialized medical services; no evidence on the impact or costs of these models have been found	Newly added living rapid review	2021-05-27	6/9	No
Health-system arrangements	Compared to pre-pandemic levels, no differences have been found in the adjusted pre-term birth or maternal mortality rates during the COVID-19 pandemic [Review of studies of moderate quality with important heterogeneity among some of the outcomes]	Newly added living review	2021-05-14	9/11	No
Health-system arrangements	Evidence shows that vaccination rollout speed is a key factor to reduce attack rates from variants of concern, and vaccine schedules combined with non-pharmaceutical interventions are expected to limit the number of deaths and preserve ICU capacity [Review of studies of low to moderate quality]	Newly added living rapid review	2021-05-11	8/9	No
Health-system arrangements	While some conflicting data shows that variants of concern have increased hospitalizations and severity, evidence shows that non-pharmaceutical interventions may reduce the risk of exceeding optimal hospital capacity due to variants of concern [Review of studies of low to moderate quality]	Newly added living rapid review	2021-05-11	8/9	No