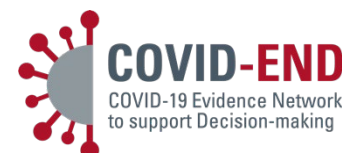


Global spotlight 8.2: Key additions for the second half of August 2021



There are two newly added syntheses and one update to a living evidence synthesis that is already included in the public-health measures part of the COVID-END inventory of ‘best’ evidence syntheses*, six newly added syntheses and 20 updates to living evidence syntheses that are already included in the clinical management parts of the inventory, and one newly added synthesis 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	Evidence shows that COVID-19 infects all blood types, but the infection rates are different (i.e., A > 0 > B > AB) [Review of studies of variable quality with substantial heterogeneity among their findings]	Newly added full review	2021-03-21	8/11	No
Public-health measures	The risk of reinfection in individuals with prior evidence of infection was low for up to 10 months, although further evidence is needed on how these findings might change with variants of concern [Review of studies of moderate quality]	Newly added full review	2021-02-19	8/10	No
Public-health measures	[BioNTech/Fosun Pharma/Pfizer vaccine (age-group analysis available)] Compared to placebo, vaccination with BNT162b2 reduces the incidence of symptomatic cases of COVID-19, and probably reduces severe and critical disease substantially, although there remains uncertainty about the effect on mortality; it may increase the incidence of severe adverse events	Update to living review	2021-08-20	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	Among patients hospitalized with COVID-19, intravenous immunoglobulin may increase clinical improvement and reduce disease progression substantially; the effects on other outcomes are uncertain	Newly added living review	2021-08-20	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Canakinumab] Among patients hospitalized with COVID-19, canakinumab may slightly reduce mortality and disease progression, while it probably slightly increases clinical improvement; it may not increase the risk of severe adverse events	Newly added living review	2021-08-20	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Ribavirin + hydroxychloroquine] The effects of using ribavirin + hydroxychloroquine to treat COVID-19 hospitalized patients are currently uncertain	Newly added living review	2021-08-20	10/11	Yes

Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	The mechanism for liver injury due to COVID-19 infection involves hepatotoxicity by therapeutic agents, liver damage caused by the virus, and hepatic ischemia caused by hypoxia and cytokine storm syndrome, among others [Review of studies of unknown quality]	Newly added full review	2021-04-30	4/9	No
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	Among COVID-19 patients admitted to ICU, almost half of them develop ventilator-associated pneumonia [Review of observational studies mainly of moderate quality with substantial heterogeneity among their findings]	Newly added full review	2021-03-02	8/11	No
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	Among women with COVID-19, non-pregnant women, compared to pregnant women, more frequently reported headache, fever, expectoration, myalgia, chest tightness, wheezing, diarrhea and anosmia, and had a higher frequency of comorbidities [Review of studies of variable quality with substantial heterogeneity among some of their findings]	Newly added full review	2021-02-25	8/11	No
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Azithromycin] The effects of adding azithromycin to hydroxychloroquine therapy in hospitalized patients are uncertain, and it may even slightly increase serious adverse events; it may not have an effect on viral negative conversion in mild outpatients	Update to living review	2021-08-20	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Bamlanivimab + etesevimab] In mild outpatients, bamlanivimab + etesevimab may increase clinical improvement and viral negative conversion, while it may reduce the risk of hospitalization or death	Update to living review	2021-08-20	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Colchicine] In hospitalized patients, colchicine may reduce mortality at 28 days, and it makes little or no difference in clinical improvement; the safety and effects on other outcomes are uncertain	Update to living review	2021-08-20	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, while it probably does not have an effect on clinical improvement	Update to living review	2021-08-20	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	Compared to therapeutic anticoagulants, using prophylactic anticoagulants may make little or no difference in mortality, and probably does not have an effect on clinical improvement	Update to living review	2021-08-20	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Hydroxychloroquine vs ivermectin] The benefits of using hydroxychloroquine or ivermectin in hospitalized COVID-19 patients are uncertain, and the risk of adverse events may be similar	Update to living review	2021-08-20	10/11	Yes

Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	In hospitalized patients, adding convalescent plasma to standard care probably does not have an effect on mortality at 28 days and clinical improvement, while it may make little or no difference in disease progression; it may slightly increase serious adverse events and probably increases any adverse event	Update to living review	2021-08-20	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[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; it may not increase the risk of serious adverse events and probably does not increase the risk of any adverse event	Update to living review	2021-08-20	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[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 any adverse events, and it may not increase serious adverse events	Update to living review	2021-08-20	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Tocilizumab] Among hospitalized patients, tocilizumab reduces mortality at 28 days, it may slightly reduce mortality at 60 days, and it probably slightly increases the incidence of clinical improvement; it probably does not increase serious adverse events	Update to living review	2021-08-20	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	Among the 137 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	Update to living rapid review	2021-08-04	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Canakinumab] The effects of canakinumab to treat COVID-19 patients is currently uncertain	Update to living rapid review	2021-08-04	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Colchicine + rosuvastatin] The effects of colchicine + rosuvastatin to treat COVID-19 patients are currently uncertain	Update to living rapid review	2021-08-04	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and	[Dapagliflozin] In hospitalized COVID-19 patients with cardiometabolic risk factors, dapagliflozin may reduce mortality, but	Update to living rapid review	2021-08-04	7/10	Yes

pandemic-related health issues	probably does not improve symptom resolution				
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Indomethacin] The effects of indomethacin to treat COVID-19 patients are currently uncertain	Update to living rapid review	2021-08-04	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Secukinumab] The effects of using secukinumab to treat COVID-19 patients are currently uncertain	Update to living rapid review	2021-08-04	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Sitagliptin] The effects of using sitagliptin to treat COVID-19 patients are currently uncertain	Update to living rapid review	2021-08-04	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Spironolactone] The effects of using spironolactone to treat COVID-19 patients are currently uncertain	Update to living rapid review	2021-08-04	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Azithromycin] Azithromycin probably does not reduce mortality and mechanical ventilation, and does not improve time to symptom resolution among COVID-19 patients	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-30	7/10	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Bamlanivimab + etesevimab] Bamlanivimab + etesevimab probably reduces hospitalizations in patients with COVID-19, while its effects on other outcomes are uncertain	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-30	7/10	Yes
Health-system arrangements	Parents' trust in healthcare providers and the government are probably a factor explaining their decisions about vaccinating their children, while vaccine safety is probably a major concern; the lack of information or inaccurate information is probably a recurrent theme among parents that must balance both risks and benefits of disease and vaccination to inform their decisions	Newly added living rapid review	2021-05-31	8/10	Yes