

Global spotlight 2.2: Key additions for the second half of February 2021

There are 10 key additions to the public-health measures and clinical management parts of the COVID-END inventory of ‘best’ evidence syntheses*, as well as three updates to ‘best’ living evidence syntheses that are already included in the inventory in the clinical management and economic and social responses 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	[BioNTech/Fosun Pharma/Pfizer vaccine] Compared to placebo, vaccination with BNT162b2 probably reduces the incidence of symptomatic cases of COVID-19 substantially, and probably doesn't lead to an increase in serious adverse events. However, it probably increases the incidence of any adverse event reported substantially, and there remains uncertainty about the impact on reducing mortality, disease severity and hospitalizations	Newly added living review	2021-02-19	10/11	Yes
Public-health measures	[Moderna TX vaccine] Compared to placebo, vaccination with mRNA-1273 probably reduces the incidence of symptomatic cases of COVID-19 substantially, and it may reduce severe disease, while the incidence of serious adverse events is probably not increased	Newly added living review	2021-02-19	10/11	Yes
Public-health measures	[Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine] Compared to vaccinating with MedACWY (meningitis vaccine), vaccination with ChAdOx1 probably reduces the incidence of symptomatic cases of COVID-19 as well as the number of positive tests, whereas the effects on mortality, severity and hospitalizations are uncertain, and adverse events are probably less frequent	Newly added living review	2021-02-19	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	Clinical staff working in high-exposure roles report higher rates of anxiety and depression compared to low-exposure roles [Review of studies of unknown quality conducted during COVID-19, Ebola, H1N1, MERS, and SARS outbreaks]	Newly added living rapid review	2021-01-18	4/11	No
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Anakinra] The effects of anakinra for COVID-19 patients are uncertain	Newly added full review	2021-01-07	9/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	Insufficient evidence was found regarding the use of convalescent plasma for pediatric patients with SARS-CoV-2	Newly added full review	2020-11-01	7/10	No
Clinical management of COVID-19 and	Evidence shows that for the majority of patients who were the recipient of a solid organ transplant during the COVID-19 pandemic, antimetabolites	Newly added full review	2020-10-09	6/11	No

pandemic-related health issues	were either reduced or stopped [Review of observational studies of unknown quality]				
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	Around half of patients requiring tracheotomy have been successfully weaned off of mechanical ventilation, while over one third of tracheotomized patients have undergone successful decannulation [Review of observational studies of variable quality]	Newly added full review	2020-09-27	8/11	No
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	An increase in the incidence and mortality of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest has been reported during the COVID-19 pandemic, while the time from call to ambulance arrival has increased, and the frequency of cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automatic external defibrillator use has been reduced [Review of studies of fair and good quality]	Newly added full review	Not specified	7/11	No
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	A substantial decrease in the number of hospital admissions for acute cardiovascular disease has been reported during the COVID-19 pandemic, with shorter lengths of stay and fewer procedures performed [Review of studies of variable quality]	Newly added full review	2020-08-12	7/10	No
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Sarilumab] Adding sarilumab to standard care may make little or no difference in mortality and may slightly increase adverse events in severe/critical COVID-19 patients	Update to living review	2021-02-19	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Tocilizumab] Tocilizumab slightly reduces mortality and probably slightly increases the incidence of clinical improvement, whereas it probably does not increase serious adverse events	Update to living review	2021-02-19	10/11	Yes
Economic and social responses	When infection prevention and control measures are in place and adhered to, the risk of transmission among children in schools and daycares, and from children to adults more generally is probably low	Update to living rapid review	2021-01-21	8/10	Yes