

Global spotlight 9.2: Key additions for the second half of September 2021



There are three newly added evidence syntheses and two updates to living evidence syntheses already included in the public-health measures parts of the COVID-END inventory of ‘best’ evidence syntheses*, three newly added evidence syntheses in the clinical management parts of the inventory, two newly added evidence syntheses in the health-system arrangements parts of the inventory, and one newly added evidence synthesis in the economic and social responses 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 individuals who are black and Hispanic are more affected by COVID-19 when measured by cases, hospitalizations and deaths [Review of studies on unknown quality with important heterogeneity among their findings]	Newly added full review	2021-04-15	9/11	No
Public-health measures	A significant association has been found between influenza vaccination and reduced SARS-CoV-2 infection rate, while no evidence was found regarding the association of influenza vaccination with COVID-19 clinical outcomes [Review of studies of mainly low quality]	Newly added full review	2021-03-10	8/11	No
Public-health measures	Evidence studying patients with hemoglobinopathies suggests that, compared to the general population, patients with sickle-cell disease have higher COVID-19 infection rates [Review of studies of important heterogeneity among some of their findings]	Newly added full review	2021-01-16	8/11	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, and it may prevent death from the Delta variant of concern	Update to living rapid review	2021-09-22	7/9	No
Public-health measures	[CoronaVac/Sinovac vaccine against variants of concern] Coronavac/Sinovac vaccine may prevent infection from the Delta and Gamma variant of concern, while it may prevent severe infection from the Delta variant of concern	Update to living rapid review	2021-09-22	7/9	No
Clinical management of COVID-19	Patients with COVID-19-associated mucormycosis have been found to have an underlying history of diabetes and received corticosteroids as part of their COVID-19 management, and a higher mortality was reported among them [Review of mainly case reports]	Newly added full review	2021-05-14	5/10	No
Clinical management of COVID-19	Evidence suggests that 4% of patients with multiple sclerosis have had COVID-19 infection, and 10% of those infected have been hospitalized	Newly added full review	2021-04-01	6/11	No

	[Review of studies of mainly moderate quality with important heterogeneity among their findings]				
Clinical management of COVID-19	Tracheostomy has been associated with reduced mortality and shortened ICU stay among COVID-19 patients [Review of studies of variable quality with important heterogeneity among some of their findings]	Newly added full review	2021-03-04	5/11	No
Health-system arrangements	The COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted the health and well-being of informal caregivers of people with dementia, with anxiety and depression being particularly prevalent [Review of studies of unclear quality]	Newly added rapid review	2021-03-15	5/9	No
Health-system arrangements	A moderate to severe disruption of neurological services has been described during the COVID-19 pandemic, while telemedicine has been the most frequently mentioned strategy to address these disruptions [Review of studies of unclear quality]	Newly added full review	2021-02-28	4/9	No
Economic and social responses	The impact of COVID-19 pandemic on employment and work-related aspects may substantially vary by age [Review of studies of unclear quality]	Newly added rapid review	2021-04-01	5/9	No