

## COVID-19 Living Evidence Synthesis # 8 (Version 8.9: 11 April 2022)

### Question

What is the effectiveness of available COVID-19 vaccines for children and adolescents, including variants of concern?

### Findings

For vaccine effectiveness in variants of concern (VOC), we present a [visual summary of evidence in Table 1](#) and [Table 2](#).

Methods are presented in Box 1 and in the following appendices:

- 1) [reference list](#)
- 2) [glossary](#)
- 3) [data-extraction template](#)
- 4) [process for assigning variant of concern to studies](#)
- 5) [research question and critical appraisal process](#)
- 6) [detailed description of the narrative summary statement](#).

Overall, 44 studies were appraised and 15 used to complete this summary. The [reasons for excluding](#) the remaining 29 studies are reported in the second section of Appendix 2.

Three new studies have been added since the previous edition of this living evidence synthesis, which is signaled by a last updated date of 11 April 2022 (highlighted in yellow). The new studies included results for VOC Delta and VOC Omicron. Studies for VOC Omicron do not report information by sublineages (BA.1 and BA.2)

### Box 1: Our approach

We retrieved candidate studies and updates to living evidence syntheses on vaccine effectiveness using the following mechanisms: 1) PubMed via COVID-19+ Evidence Alerts; 2) systematic scanning of pre-print servers; 3) updates to the COVID-END inventory of best evidence syntheses; and 4) cross-check with updates from the VESPa team. We included studies and updates to living evidence syntheses identified up to two days before the version release date. We did not include press releases unless a preprint was available. A full list of included and excluded studies is provided in **Appendix 1**. A glossary is provided in **Appendix 2**.

**Prioritized outcome measures:** Infection, severe disease (as defined by the study investigators), death, and transmission.

**Data extraction:** We prioritized variant-confirmed and vaccine-specific data over total study population data (variant assumed and/or vaccine unspecified). We extracted data from each study in duplicate using the template provided in **Appendix 3**. Relevance to VOC is determined directly, when reported by study authors, or indirectly where reasonable assumptions can be made about the variant prevalent in the jurisdiction at the time of the study as described in **Appendix 4**.

**Critical appraisal:** We assessed risk of bias, direction of effect, and certainty of evidence. **Risk of bias:** assessed in duplicate for individual studies using an adapted version of ROBINS-I. **Direction of vaccine effect:** “prevented” or “protects” was applied to mean estimates or range of mean estimates of effect that are greater than or equal to 50% (the lowest acceptable limit for vaccine effectiveness as determined by WHO). **Certainty of evidence:** assessed for the collection of studies for each vaccine according to variant of concern using a modified version of GRADE. Details of the research question for this synopsis and the critical appraisal process are provided in **Appendix 5**.

**Summaries:** We summarized the evidence by presenting narrative evidence profiles across studies, with or without pooling, as appropriate. A template for the summary statements used on page 1 under “Findings” and in Table 1 under each VOC is provided in **Appendix 6**.

We update this document every Wednesday and post it on the COVID-END website.

## Highlights of changes this report

- New data on Pfizer [BNT162b2] against VOC Delta has been added to Table 1 and Table 2 of one moderate risk of bias study (ref 13) and one serious risk of bias study (ref 15)
- New data on Pfizer [BNT162b2] against VOC Omicron has been added to Table 1 and Table 2 of one moderate risk of bias study (ref 13) and one serious risk of bias study (ref 15)
- We did not find studies in children and adolescents that evaluated the vaccine effectiveness for Omicron VOC by the BA.1 and BA.2 sublineages.
- From LES 8.9 and latter we are implementing a new colour label for certainty of evidence classification. High certainty remains green, moderate certainty will go yellow, low certainty will go orange.

## Pfizer/Comirnaty [BNT162b2]

### ● VOC Delta

- We have low certainty evidence that 1 dose of **BNT162b2 (Pfizer)** prevented infection from VOC **Delta** (range of mean estimates: 59 to 80% - 2 Obs [2][10]) in adolescents age 12 to 18 years
- We have moderate certainty evidence that 1 dose of **BNT162b2 (Pfizer)** prevented symptomatic infection from VOC **Delta** (range of mean estimates: 70 to 76% - 2 Obs [5][9]) in adolescents age 12 to 18 years
- We have moderate certainty evidence that 2 doses of **BNT162b2 (Pfizer)** prevented infection from VOC **Delta** (range of mean estimates: 81 to 92% - 6 Obs [1][2][6][9][11][13]) in adolescents age 12 to 18 years
- We have moderate certainty evidence that 2 doses of **BNT162b2 (Pfizer)** prevented symptomatic infection from VOC **Delta** (range of mean estimates: 87 to 96% - 2 Obs [5][9]) in adolescents age 12 to 18 years
- We have low certainty evidence that 2 doses of **BNT162b2 (Pfizer)** prevented ICU admission from VOC **Delta** (98% [95% CI, 93 to 99] - 1 Obs [4]), in adolescents age 12 to 18 years
- We have low certainty evidence that 2 doses of **BNT162b2 (Pfizer)** prevented MIS-C from VOC **Delta** (91% [95% CI, 78 to 97] - 1 Obs [7]), in adolescents age 12 to 18 years

### ● VOC Omicron

- We have low certainty evidence that 1 dose of **BNT162b2 (Pfizer)** prevented infection from VOC **Omicron** (53.7% [95% CI, 43.3 to 62.2]- 1 Obs [10]) in adolescents age 12 to 17 years
- We have low certainty evidence that 1 dose of **BNT162b2 (Pfizer)** prevented symptomatic infection from VOC **Omicron** (range of mean estimates: 44 to 53% - 1 Obs [5]) in adolescents age 12 to 17 years
- We have low certainty evidence that 2 doses of **BNT162b2 (Pfizer)** prevented symptomatic infection from VOC **Omicron** (range of mean estimates: 71 to 83% - 1 Obs [5]) in adolescents age 12 to 17 years
- We have moderate certainty evidence that 2 doses of **BNT162b2 (Pfizer)** prevented infection from VOC **Omicron** (range of mean estimates: 59% 53 to 59% - 2 Obs [11][13]) in adolescents age 12 to 17 years
- We have low certainty evidence that 3 doses of **BNT162b2 (Pfizer)** prevented symptomatic infection from VOC **Omicron** (81% [95% CI, 59 to 91] - 1 Obs [8]) in adolescents age 16 to 17 years

## Sinovac [CoronaVac]

### ● VOC Omicron

- We have low certainty evidence that 2 doses of **CoronaVac** prevented infection from VOC **Omicron** (38.2% [95% CI, 36.5 to 39.9] - 1 Obs [12]) in children age 3 to 5 years

- We have low certainty evidence that 2 doses of **CoronaVac** prevented ICU admission from VOC **Omicron** (69% [95% CI, 18.6 to 88.2] - 1 Obs [12]) in children age 3 to 5 years

**Table 1: Visual summary of evidence for COVID-19 vaccines for variants of concern (up to 28 days after 2 doses)**

**Percentages** indicate level of effectiveness from 0% (no effect) to 100% (full protection): ranges of estimated means are provided when  $\geq 1$  study is available; estimated mean value is provided for single studies

**Colour** indicates level of certainty based on the evidence\*

High certainty evidence	Moderate certainty evidence	Low certainty evidence
pooling of low to moderate risk of bias RCTs or pooling of observational studies with low risk of bias and consistent findings	single RCT with low to moderate risk of bias or >one observational study with low to moderate risk of bias and at least partially consistent findings	single RCT or observational study with serious risk of bias or multiple low to serious risk of bias observational studies with inconsistent findings

*\*Note: From LES 8.9 and afterwards, we are implementing a new colour label to classify the certainty of the evidence. High certainty evidence remains highlighted in green; moderate certainty evidence will be from now on presented in yellow, and the low certainty evidence, in orange.*

Outcome (and vaccine)	Vaccine Effectiveness (2 doses unless otherwise stated) up to 28 days after last dose each combination of vaccine, variant, and outcome					
	Overall	Alpha	Beta	Gamma	Delta	Omicron
<b>Any Infection</b>						
Pfizer	91%				81 - 92%	53 - 59%
Moderna						
CoronaVac						38%
<b>Symptomatic Infection</b>						
Pfizer					87 - 96%	71 - 83%
Moderna						
CoronaVac						
<b>Transmission</b>						
Pfizer						
Moderna						
CoronaVac						
<b>ICU Admission</b>						
Pfizer					98%	
Moderna						
CoronaVac						69%
<b>Severe Disease (may include death for some studies)</b>						
Pfizer						
Moderna						
CoronaVac						
<b>Death</b>						
Pfizer						

Moderna						
CoronaVac						

\*Single dose

\*\*mean estimate of effect less than the lowest acceptable limit for vaccine effectiveness as determined by WHO

**Table 2: Visual summary of evidence for COVID-19 vaccines for variant of concern – Delta [2 doses>28 days since last dose]**

**Percentages** indicate level of effectiveness from 0% (no effect) to 100% (full protection): ranges of estimated means are provided when  $\geq 1$  study is available; estimated mean value is provided for single studies

**Colour** indicates level of certainty based on the evidence\*

High certainty evidence	Moderate certainty evidence	Low certainty evidence
pooling of low to moderate risk of bias RCTs or pooling of observational studies with low risk of bias and consistent findings	single RCT with low to moderate risk of bias or >one observational study with low to moderate risk of bias and at least partially consistent findings	single RCT or observational study with serious risk of bias or multiple low to serious risk of bias observational studies with inconsistent findings

*\*Note: From LES 8.9 and afterwards, we are implementing a new colour label to classify the certainty of the evidence. High certainty evidence remains highlighted in green; moderate certainty evidence will be from now on presented in yellow, and the low certainty evidence, in orange.*

Outcome (and vaccine)	Variant	Number of doses	Time since Last Dose (days)	Vaccine Effectiveness	
<b>Any Infection</b>					
Pfizer	Delta	1	21 to 48	63 to 68	
			28 to 56	86.4% (95% CI, 83.5 to 88.7)	
			49 to 76	47 to 56	
			56 to 84	61.5% (95% CI, 43.5 to 73.7)	
			77	29 to 49	
		2	35 to 56	90% (95% CI, 67 to 97)	
			35 to 62	92.8% (95% CI, 89.8 to 94.9)	
			63 to 84	95% (95% CI, 79 to 99)	
			63	83.7% (95% CI, 75.9 to 89)	
	14 to 149	91 to 119	83% (95% CI, 34 to 95)		
		14 to 149	87% (95% CI, 49 to 97)		
		Omicron	1	21 to 48	16 to 34
				28 to 56	57.9% (95% CI, 50.9 to 63.9)
49 to 76	-1 to 17				
77	-13 to -5				

			56 to 84	63.7% (95% CI, 59 to 67.9)
		2	14 to 82	31% (95% CI, 9 to 48)
			35 to 62	45.7% (95% CI, 34.8 to 54.7)
			63	23.3% (95% CI, 2.7 to 39.5)
			14 to 149	59% (95% CI, 22 to 79)
Moderna				
CoronaVac				
<b>Symptomatic Infection</b>				
Pfizer	Delta	1	28 to 34	61 to 63%
			35 to 41	56 to 58%
			42 to 55	44 to 54%
			56 to 69	36 to 48%
			70 to 83	35 to 46%
			84 to 104	29 to 53%
			105	30.9% (95% CI, 25.4 to 36.0)
			14 to 149	85 to 92%
	Omicron	1	28 to 34	33 to 42%
			35 to 41	36 to 49%
			42 to 55	29 to 40%
			56 to 69	23 to 27%
			70 to 83	16 to 27%
			84	17 to 26%
			105	12.5% (95% CI, 96.9 to 17.8)
			14 to 149	34 to 45%
Omicron	2	35 to 69	91.5% (95% CI, 89.9 to 93.0)	
		70	83.7% (95% CI, 72.0 to 90.5)	
		35 to 69	49.5% (95% CI, 45.7 to 53.0)	
		70	22.6% (95% CI, 14.5 to 29.9)	
14 to 149	34 to 45%			
Moderna				
CoronaVac				
<b>Transmission</b>				
Pfizer				
Moderna				
CoronaVac				
<b>ICU Admission</b>				
Pfizer				
Moderna				
CoronaVac				
<b>MIS-C</b>				
Pfizer	Delta	2	28	91% (78 to 97)

Moderna				
CoronaVac				
<b>Severe Disease (may include death for some studies)</b>				
Pfizer				
Moderna				
CoronaVac				
<b>Death</b>				
Pfizer				
Moderna				
CoronaVac				

**Table 3: Key findings about vaccine effectiveness**

Vaccine	Effectiveness	Findings
<b>Pfizer/ BioNTech</b>  <b>Comirnaty</b>  <b>[BNT162b2]</b>	<b>Delta</b>  At least 14 days after 1 <sup>st</sup> dose & At least 7 days after 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose	BNT162b2 provided protection against VOC Delta for the following outcomes at least 14 days after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 18: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 59 to 80% from infection (RME) (2 Obs - [2][10])</li> <li>● 70 to 76% from symptomatic infection(RME) (2 Obs - [5][9])</li> </ul> BNT162b2 provided protection against VOC Delta for the following outcomes at 0 to 27 days after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 15: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 14.2% (95% CI, - 25.6 to 41.4) against hospitalization (1 Obs - [5])</li> </ul> BNT162b2 provided protection against VOC Delta for the following outcomes at 0 to 27 days after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 16 to 17: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 64.6% (95% CI, 40.7 to 78.9) from hospitalization (1 Obs - [5])</li> </ul> BNT162b2 provided protection against VOC Delta for the following outcomes at least 7 days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 18: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 81 to 92% against infection (RME) (6 Obs -[1][2][6][9][11][13])</li> <li>● 87 to 96% against symptomatic infection (RME) (2 Obs -[5][9])</li> </ul> BNT162b2 provided protection against VOC Delta for the following outcomes at least 14 days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 18: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 94% (95% CI, 90 to 96) from hospitalization (1 Obs - [4])</li> <li>● 98% (95% CI, 93 to 99) from ICU admission (1 Obs - [4])</li> </ul> (9 Obs) [1][2][4][5][6][9][10][11][13]; <i>last update</i> 2022-04-11
	<b>Delta</b>  >30 days after 1 <sup>st</sup> dose	BNT162b2 provided protection against infection by VOC Delta the following number of days after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 17: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 86.4% (95% CI, 83.5 to 88.7) – at 28 to 56 days (1 Obs - [10])</li> <li>● 61.5% (95% CI, 43.5 to 73.7) – at 56 to 84 days (1 Obs - [10])</li> <li>● 63 to 68% (RME) – at 21 to 48 days (1 Obs - [13])</li> <li>● 47 to 56% (RME) – at 49 to 76 days (1 Obs - [13])</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 29 to 49% (RME) – at least 77 days (1 Obs - [13])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against symptomatic infection by VOC Delta the following number of days after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 61 to 63% (RME) – at 28 to 34 days (1 Obs - [5])</li> <li>● 56 to 58% (RME) – at 35 to 41 days (1 Obs - [5])</li> <li>● 44 to 54% (RME) – at 42 to 55 days (1 Obs - [5])</li> <li>● 36 to 48% (RME) – at 56 to 69 days (1 Obs - [5])</li> <li>● 35 to 46% (RME) – at 70 to 83 days (1 Obs - [5])</li> <li>● 29 to 53% (RME) – at 84 to 104 days (1 Obs - [5])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against symptomatic infection by VOC Delta the following number of days after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 16 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 30.9% (95% CI, 25.4 to 36.0) – at least 105 days (1 Obs - [5])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against hospitalization by VOC Delta the following number of days after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 76 to 83% (RME) - at least 28 days (1 Obs - [5])</li> </ul> <p>(3 Obs) [5][10][13]; <i>last update</i> 2022-04-11</p>
	<p><b>Delta</b></p> <p>&gt;30 days after 2<sup>nd</sup> dose</p>	<p>BNT162b2 provided protection against infection by VOC Delta for the following number of days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 18:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 90% (95% CI, 67 to 97) - at 35 to 56 days (1 Obs - [2])</li> <li>● 83% (95% CI, 34 to 95) - at 34 to 95 days (1 Obs - [2])</li> <li>● 95% (95% CI, 79 to 99) - at 79 to 99 (1 Obs - [2])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against infection by VOC Delta for the following number of days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 15:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 87% (95% CI, 49 to 97) - at 14 to 149 days (1 Obs - [11])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against infection by VOC Delta for the following number of days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 16 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 92.8% (95% CI, 89.8 to 94.9) - at 35 to 62 days (1 Obs - [13])</li> <li>● 83.7% (95% CI, 75.9 to 89) - at least 63 days (1 Obs - [13])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against MIS-C by VOC Delta the following number of days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 18:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 91% (95% CI, 78 to 97) - at least 28 days, Median 84 days (IQR 51–122) (1 Obs - [7])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against symptomatic infection by VOC Delta for the following number of days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 16 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 91.5% (95% CI, 89.9 to 93.0) - at 35 to 69 days (1 Obs - [5])</li> <li>● 83.7% (95% CI, 72.0 to 90.5) - at least 70 days (1 Obs - [5])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against symptomatic infection by VOC Delta for the following number of days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 85 to 92% (RME) - at 14 to 149 days (1 Obs - [8])</li> </ul>

		<p>BNT162b2 provided protection against hospitalization by VOC Delta for the following number of days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 18:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 93% (95% CI, 89 to 95) - at 14 to 154 days (1 Obs - [13])</li> </ul> <p>(6 Obs) [5][7][8][9][11][13]; <i>last update</i> 2022-04-11</p>
<p><b>Omicron</b></p> <p>At least 14 days after 1<sup>st</sup> dose &amp; At least 7 days after 2<sup>nd</sup> dose</p>	<p>BNT162b2 provided protection against VOC Omicron for the following outcomes at least 14 days after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 53.7% (95% CI, 43.3 to 62.2) from infection (1 Obs - [10])</li> <li>● 44 to 53% (RME) from symptomatic infection (1 Obs - [5])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against VOC Omicron for the following outcomes at least 14 days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 53 to 59% (RME) from infection (2 Obs - [11][13])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against VOC Omicron for the following outcomes at least 7 days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 71 to 83% from symptomatic infection (RME) (1 Obs - [5])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against VOC Omicron for the following outcomes at least 14 days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in children age 5 to 11:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 68% (95% CI, 42 to 82) from hospitalization (1 Obs - [15])</li> </ul> <p>(5 Obs) [5][10][11][13][15]; <i>last update</i> 2022-04-11</p>	
<p><b>Omicron</b></p> <p>Any time frame after 3<sup>rd</sup> dose</p>	<p>BNT162b2 provided protection against VOC Omicron for the following outcomes at least 7 days after <u>3<sup>rd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 16 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 81% (95% CI, 59 to 91) from symptomatic infection (1 Obs - [8])</li> </ul> <p>(1 Obs) [8]; <i>last update</i> 2022-03-14</p>	
<p><b>Omicron</b></p> <p>&gt;30 days after 1<sup>st</sup> dose</p>	<p>BNT162b2 provided protection against infection by VOC Omicron the following number of days after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 57.9% (95% CI, 50.9 to 63.9) – at 28 to 56 days (1 Obs - [10])</li> <li>● 63.7% (95% CI, 59 to 67.9) – at 56 to 84 days (1 Obs - [10])</li> <li>● -1 to 17 (RME) – at 49 to 76 days (1 Obs - [13])</li> <li>● -13 to 5 (RME) – at least 77 days (1 Obs - [13])</li> <li>● 16 to 34 (RME) – at 21 to 48 days (1 Obs - [13])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against symptomatic infection by VOC Omicron the following number of days after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 33 to 42% (RME) – at 28 to 34 days (1 Obs - [5])</li> <li>● 36 to 49% (RME) – at 35 to 41 days (1 Obs - [5])</li> <li>● 29 to 40% (RME) – at 42 to 55 days (1 Obs - [5])</li> <li>● 23 to 27% (RME) – at 56 to 69 days (1 Obs - [5])</li> <li>● 16 to 27% (RME) – at 70 to 83 days (1 Obs - [5])</li> <li>● 17 to 26% (RME) – at least 84 days (1 Obs - [5])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against symptomatic infection by VOC Omicron the following number of days after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 16 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 12.5% (95% CI, 6.9 to 17.8) – at least 105 days (1 Obs - [5])</li> </ul>	

		(3 Obs) - [5][10][13]; <i>last update</i> 2022-04-11
	<b>Omicron</b>  >30 days after 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose	<p>BNT162b2 provided protection against infection by VOC Omicron for the following number of days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in children age 5 to 11:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 31% (95% CI, 9 to 48) - at 14 to 82 days (1 Obs - [11])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against infection by VOC Omicron for the following number of days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 15:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 59% (95% CI, 22 to 79) - at 14 to 149 days (1 Obs - [11])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against infection by VOC Omicron for the following number of days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 16 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 45.7% (95% CI, 34.8 to 54.7) - at 35 to 62 days (1 Obs - [13])</li> <li>● 23.3% (95% CI, 2.7 to 39.5) - at least 63 days (1 Obs - [13])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against symptomatic infection from VOC Omicron for the following number of days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 16 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 49.5% (95% CI, 45.7 to 53) - at 35 - 69 days (1 Obs - [5])</li> <li>● 22.6% (95% CI, 14.5 to 29.9) - at least 70 days (1 Obs - [5])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against symptomatic infection by VOC Omicron for the following number of days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in children age 5 to 11:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 51% (95% CI, 30 to 65) - at 14 to 67 days (1 Obs - [8])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against symptomatic infection by VOC Omicron for the following number of days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 34 to 45% (RME) - at 14 to 149 days (1 Obs - [8])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against hospitalization by VOC Omicron for the following number of days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 18:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 43% (95% CI, -1 to 68) - at 14 to 67 days (1 Obs - [15])</li> </ul> <p>(5 Obs) [5][8][11][13][15]; <i>last update</i> 2022-04-11</p>
<b>Moderna</b>  <b>Spikevax</b>  [mRNA-1723]	VOC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No data</li> </ul>
<b>AstraZeneca</b> [ChAd0x1]  <b>Vaxzevria</b>  <b>Serum Institute of India</b> [Covishield]*	VOC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No data</li> </ul>
<b>Johnson &amp; Johnson</b> [AD26.COV2.S]*	VOC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No data</li> </ul>

<b>Sinovac</b> [CoronaVac]	<b>Omicron</b>  At least 14 days after 1 <sup>st</sup> dose & At least 7 days after 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose	CoronaVac provided protection against VOC Omicron for the following outcomes at least 14 days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in children age 3 to 5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 38.2% (95% CI, 36.5 to 39.9) from infection-(1 Obs - [12])</li> <li>● 64.6% (95% CI, 49.6 to 75.2) from hospitalization-(1 Obs - [12])</li> <li>● 69% (95% CI, 18.6 to 88.2) from ICU admission-(1 Obs - [12])</li> </ul> (1 Obs) [12]; <i>last update 2022-03-28</i>
<b>Sinopharm (Wuhan)</b> [WIV04]*  <b>Sinopharm (Beijing)</b> [HBO2] [BBIBP-CorV]*	VOC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No data</li> </ul>
<b>Novavax</b> [NVX-CoV2373]*	VOC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No data</li> </ul>
<b>FBRI</b> [EpiVacCorona]*	VOC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No data</li> </ul>
<b>Bharat Biotech</b> [Covaxin] [BBV152]*	VOC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No data</li> </ul>
<b>Gamaleya</b> [Sputnik V] [Gam-COVID-Vac]*	VOC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No data</li> </ul>

<b>Studies Covering Time Frame for More than One VOC</b>		
<b>Vaccine</b>	<b>Effectiveness</b>	<b>Findings</b>
<b>Pfizer/BioNTech</b>  <b>Comirnaty</b>  [BNT162b2]	Overall	BNT162b2 provided protection for the following outcomes at least 14 days after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 15: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 67% (95% CI, 50 to 78) from infection (1 Obs - [3])</li> <li>● 100% (95% CI, 100 to 100) from hospitalization (1 Obs - [3])</li> </ul> BNT162b2 provided protection for the following outcomes at least 7 days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 15: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 91% (95% CI, 88 to 93) from infection (1 Obs - [3])</li> <li>● 81% (95% CI, -55 to 98) from hospitalization (1 Obs - [3])</li> </ul> (1 Obs) [3]; <i>last update 2021-12-13</i>
	<b>Delta to Omicron</b>  At least 14 days after 1 <sup>st</sup> dose & At least 7 days after 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose	BNT162b2 provided protection against VOC Delta to Omicron for the following outcomes at least 14 days after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 17: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 38% (95% CI, -51 to 79) from hospitalization (1 Obs - [14])</li> </ul> BNT162b2 provided protection against VOC Delta to Omicron for the following outcomes at least 14 days after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> in children age 4 to 11: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 32% (95% CI, -49 to 72) from hospitalization (1 Obs - [14])</li> </ul>

		<p>BNT162b2 provided protection against VOC Delta to Omicron for the following outcomes at least 14 days after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> in children and adolescents age 4 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 37% (95% CI, -13 to 67) from hospitalization (1 Obs - [14])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against VOC Delta to Omicron for the following outcomes at least 7 days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 16 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 90.7% (95% CI, 87.4 to 93.1) from infection (1 Obs - [13])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against VOC Delta to Omicron for the following outcomes at least 14 days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 18:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 82 to 83% (RME) from hospitalization (1 Obs - [15])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against VOC Delta to Omicron for the following outcomes at least 14 days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 59% (95% CI, 23 to 82) from hospitalization (1 Obs - [14])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against VOC Delta to Omicron for the following outcomes at least 14 days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 4 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 59% (95% CI, 23 to 79) from hospitalization (1 Obs - [14])</li> </ul> <p>(3 Obs) [13][14][15]; last update 2022-04-11</p>
	<p><b>Delta to Omicron</b></p> <p>&gt;30 days after 1<sup>st</sup> dose</p>	<p>BNT162b2 provided protection against infection by VOC Delta Omicron the following number of days after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 62 to 65 (RME) – at 21 to 48 days (1 Obs - [13])</li> <li>● 48 to 57 (RME) – at 49 to 76 days (1 Obs - [13])</li> <li>● 48 to 70 (RME) – at least 77 days (1 Obs - [13])</li> </ul> <p>(1 Obs) - [13]; last update 2022-04-11</p>
	<p><b>Delta to Omicron</b></p> <p>&gt;30 days after 2<sup>nd</sup> dose</p>	<p>BNT162b2 provided protection against infection by VOC Delta to Omicron for the following number of days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 16 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 92.3% (95% CI, 82.9 to 96.6) - at 35 to 62 days (1 Obs - [13])</li> <li>● 87.8% (95% CI, 78.8 to 92.9) - at least 63 days (1 Obs - [13])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against hospitalization by VOC Delta to Omicron for the following number of days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in children age 5 to 11:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 74% (95% CI, -35 to 95) - at 14 to 67 days (1 Obs - [8])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against hospitalization by VOC Delta to Omicron for the following number of days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 92 to 94% (RME) - at 14 to 149 days (1 Obs - [8])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against symptomatic infection by VOC Delta to Omicron for the following number of days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in children age 5 to 11:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 46% (95% CI, 24 to 61) - at 14 to 67 days (1 Obs - [8])</li> </ul> <p>BNT162b2 provided protection against symptomatic infection by VOC Delta to Omicron for the following number of days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 76 to 83% (RME) - at 14 to 149 days (1 Obs - [8])</li> </ul> <p>(2 Obs) [8][13]; last update 2022-04-11</p>

	<p><b>Delta to Omicron</b></p> <p>Any time frame after 3<sup>rd</sup> dose</p>	<p>BNT162b2 provided protection against VOC Delta to Omicron for the following outcomes at least 7 days after <u>3<sup>rd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 16 to 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 86% (95% CI, 73 to 93) from symptomatic infection (1 Obs - [8]) (1 Obs) [8]; <i>last update 2022-03-14</i></li> </ul>
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Links to references are provided in Appendix 1

Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization. Pharmacovigilance for COVID-19 Vaccines. <https://covid-19pharmacovigilance.paho.org>

\*As of the date of publication, these vaccines have not been approved for the population of children and adolescents.

Flórez ID<sup>1,2</sup>, Velásquez-Salazar P<sup>1</sup>, Martínez JC<sup>1</sup>, Linkins L<sup>3</sup>, Abdelkader W<sup>3</sup>, Iorio A<sup>3</sup>, Lavis J<sup>3</sup>, Patiño-Lugo DF<sup>1</sup>. COVID-19 living evidence synthesis #8 (version 9): What is the effectiveness of available COVID-19 vaccines in children and adolescents in general and specifically for variants of concern? Evidence and Deliberation Unit for Decision Making (UNED), University of Antioquia & Health Information Research Unit (HIRU), McMaster University, 11 April 2022.

To help Canadian decision-makers as they respond to unprecedented challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic, COVID-END in Canada is preparing rapid evidence responses like this one. The development and continued updating of this living evidence synthesis has been funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Public Health Agency of Canada. The opinions, results, and conclusions are those of the team that prepared the living evidence synthesis, and independent of the Government of Canada, CIHR and the Public Health Agency of Canada. No endorsement by the Government of Canada, CIHR or Public Health Agency of Canada is intended or should be inferred.

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## Appendix 1: Summary of Study Findings and Appraisals

Section 1: included studies				
Ref	Author	Bottom line	ROBINS-I*	Design, Notes
*Note: ROBINS-I score risk of bias: Low risk of bias indicates high quality				
1	<a href="#">Glatman-Freedman</a>	BNT162b2 showed VE 91.5% (95% CI, 88.2 to 93.9) against infection at least 8 days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 15 years. There were no deaths in either group.	Serious	Population cohort in Israel of adolescents age 12 to 15 years; 2,034,591 vaccinated person-days and 13,623,714 unvaccinated person-days; time and setting for VOC Delta <i>Included in LES 8.1</i>
2	<a href="#">Reis</a>	BNT162b2 showed VE 59% (95% CI, 52 to 65) against infection 14 to 20 days after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 18.  BNT162b2 showed VE 90% (95% CI, 88 to 92) against infection 7 to 21 days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 18.	Moderate	Case-control study in Israel; 94,354 vaccinated matched to 94,354 unvaccinated adolescents age 12 to 18; time and setting for VOC Delta <i>Included in LES 8.1</i>
3	<a href="#">Tartof</a>	BNT162b2 showed VE 67% (95% CI, 50 to 78) against infection and VE 100% (95% CI, 100 to 100) against hospitalization at least +14 days after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 15 years.  BNT162b2 showed VE 91% (95% CI, 88 to 93) against infection and VE 81% (95% CI, -55 to 98) against hospitalization at least +7 days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 15 years.	Moderate	Retrospective Cohort in USA of 3,436,957 Kaiser Permanente Southern California (KPSC) healthcare system members ≥12 years of age between Dec 14, 2020 – Aug 8, 2021. The cohort included 122,779 adolescents age 12 to 15 years. The primary exposure was being fully vaccinated, defined as receiving 2 doses of BNT162b2 with ≥ 7 days after the second dose. Over the study period, 28.4% of 9,147 specimens sent for whole genome sequencing (WGS) and viral lineage designation were Delta. <i>Included in LES 8.1</i> <i>last update 2022-01-04</i>
4	<a href="#">Olson</a>	BNT162b2 showed VE 94% (95% CI, 90 to 96) against hospitalization at least +14 days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 18 years.  BNT162b2 showed VE 95% (95% CI, 88 to 97) in adolescents age 12 to 15 years and VE 94% (95% CI, 88 to 97) in adolescents age 16 to 18 years against	Moderate	Test-negative study in U.S of adolescents age 12 to 18 years between Jun 1–Oct 25, 2021; 299 fully vaccinated (receipt of 2 doses of BNT162b2 vaccine, with the second dose administered ≥14 days before illness onset), 55 partially vaccinated (had received only

		<p>hospitalization at least +14 days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u>.</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed VE 98% (95% CI, 93 to 99) against ICU admission at least +14 days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 18 years.</p>		<p>one dose of vaccine or who had received a second dose less than 14 days before illness onset) and 868 unvaccinated (no receipt of any COVID-19 vaccine before illness onset), time and setting for VOC Delta.</p> <p><i>Included in LES 8.2</i> <i>last update in LES 8.3</i></p>
5	<a href="#">Powell</a>	<p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> VE 74.5% (95% CI, 73.2 to 75.6) at 14-20 days, VE 63.4% (95% CI, 61.7 to 65.1) at 28-34 days, VE 47.5% (95% CI, 44.9 to 49.9) at 56-69 days, and VE 53.1% (95% CI, 41.6 to 62.4) at least 84 days, in adolescents age 12 to 15 years against infection. (VOC Delta)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> VE 49.6% (95% CI, 43.9 to 54.8) at 14-20 days, VE 42.1% (95% CI, 36.7 to 46.9) at 28-34 days, VE 22.5% (95% CI, 19.1 to 25.8) at 56-69 days, and VE 17.2% (95% CI, 12.0 to 22.1) at least 84 days, in adolescents age 12 to 15 years against infection. (VOC Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> VE 75.9% (95% CI, 74.3 to 77.3) at 14-20 days, VE 60.6% (95% CI, 58.1 to 62.9) at 28-34 days, VE 36.3% (95% CI, 33.1 to 39.3) at 56-69 days, VE 29.3% (95% CI, 25.9 to 32.6) at 84-104 days, and VE 30.9% (95% CI, 25.4 to 36.0) at least 105 days, in adolescents age 16 to 17 years against infection. (VOC Delta)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> VE 51.4% (95% CI, 42.7 to 58.8) at 14-20 days, VE 33% (95% CI, 18.6 to 44.9) at 28-34 days, VE 26.6% (95% CI, 17.4 to 34.8) at 56-69 days, VE 20.5% (95% CI, 13.0 to 27.3) at 84-104 days, and VE 12.5% (95% CI, 6.9 to 17.8) at least 105 days, in adolescents age 16 to 17 years against infection. (VOC Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 93.2% (95% CI, 81.5 to 97.5) at 7-13 days and VE 87.2% (95% CI, 73.7 to 93.8) at</p>	Moderate	<p>Test-negative case-control design in England of adolescents age 12-17 years from week 37, 2021 onwards; there were 617,259 eligible tests for 12-15-year-olds and 225,670 for 16-17-year-olds. Symptomatic 12-15-year-olds and 16-17-year-olds with PCR-confirmed SARS-COV-2 infection was compared with vaccination status in symptomatic adolescents in the same age-groups who had a negative SARS-COV-2 PCR test.</p> <p>All cases prior to week 48 were defined as Delta, unless S gene target failure (SGTF), genotyping or sequencing information confirmed otherwise. Tests were defined as Omicron from week 48 onwards using SGTF, genotyping or sequencing information.</p> <p><i>Included in LES 8.2</i> <i>Updated in LES 8.6</i> <i>Link Updated in LES 8.8</i></p>

		<p>least 14 days in adolescents age 12 to 15 years against infection. (VOC Delta)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 83.1% (95% CI, 78.2 to 86.9) at 7-13 days and VE 73% (95% CI, 66.4 to 78.3) at least 14 days in adolescents age 12 to 15 years against infection. (VOC Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 93.1% (95% CI, 91.6 to 94.4) at 7-13 days, VE 96.1% (95% CI, 95.2 to 96.8) at 14-34 days, VE 91.5% (95% CI, 89.9 to 93.0) at 35-69 days, and VE 83.7% (95% CI, 72.0 to 90.5) at least 70 days in adolescents age 16 to 17 years against infection. (VOC Delta)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 76.1% (95% CI, 73.4 to 78.6) at 7-13 days, VE 71.3% (95% CI, 69.3 to 73.1) at 14-34 days, VE 49.5% (95% CI, 45.7 to 53.0) at 35-69 days, and VE 22.6% (95% CI, 14.5 to 29.9) at least 70 days in adolescents age 16 to 17 years against infection. (VOC Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> VE 14.2% (95% CI, -25.6 to 41.4) at 0-27 days, and VE 83.4% (95% CI, 54.0 to 94.0) at least 28 days in adolescents age 12 to 15 years against hospitalization. (VOC Delta)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> VE 64.6% (95% CI, 40.7 to 78.9) at 0-27 days, and VE 76.3% (95% CI, 61.1 to 85.6) at least 28 days in adolescents age 16 to 18 years against hospitalization. (VOC Delta)</p>		
6	<a href="#">Lutrick</a>	BNT162b2 showed VE 92% (95% CI, 79 to 97) against infection at least +14 days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 17 years.	Moderate	Prospective cohort in Arizona, of 243 adolescents aged 12–17 years between Jul 25 - Dec 4, 2021; 21,693 vaccinated person-days and 4,288 unvaccinated person-days; time and setting for VOC Delta. <i>Included in LES 8.3</i>
7	<a href="#">Zambrano</a>	BNT162b2 showed VE 91% (95% CI, 78 to 97) against MIS-C at least +28 days	Moderate	Test-negative case-control design in 24 pediatric hospitals in 20 states of U.S among

		after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in adolescents age 12 to 18 years.		hospitalized patients aged 12–18 years between Jul 1–Dec 9, 2021; 283 participants; VE was assessed by comparing the odds of antecedent vaccination in 102 patients with MIS-C (case patients) and 181 patients in two groups of hospitalized controls (test-negative and syndrome-negative) matched to case-patients; time and setting for VOC Delta. <i>Included in LES 8.3</i>
8	<a href="#">Klein</a>	<p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 74% (95% CI, -35 to 95) at 14-67 days, in children age 5 to 11 years against hospitalization. (VOC Delta to Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 92% (95% CI, 79 to 97) at 14-149 days, in adolescents age 12 to 15 years against hospitalization. (VOC Delta to Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 94% (95% CI, 87 to 97) at 14-149 days, in adolescents age 16 to 17 years against hospitalization. (VOC Delta to Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 46% (95% CI, 24 to 61) at 14-67 days, in children age 5 to 11 years against symptomatic infection. (VOC Delta to Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 83% (95% CI, 80 to 85) at 14-149 days, in adolescents age 12 to 15 years against symptomatic infection. (VOC Delta to Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 76% (95% CI, 71 to 80) at 14-149 days, in adolescents age 16 to 17 years against symptomatic infection. (VOC Delta to Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>3<sup>rd</sup> dose</u> VE 86% (95% CI, 73 to 93) at least 7 days, in adolescents age 16 to 17 years against symptomatic infection. (VOC Delta to Omicron)</p>	Serious	<p>Test-negative case-control design in 10 states of the U.S among 39,217 emergency department (ED) and urgent care (UC) encounters and 1,699 hospitalizations among persons aged 5–17 years with COVID-19–like illness during April 9, 2021– January 29, 2022. VE was estimated comparing the odds of a positive SARS-CoV-2 test result between vaccinated (received at least 2 doses <math>\geq</math>14 days earlier or 3 doses <math>\geq</math>7 days earlier) and unvaccinated (received no doses) patients; time and setting for VOC Delta and VOC Omicron. <i>Included in LES 8.7</i></p>

		<p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 92% (95% CI, 89 to 94) at 14-149 days, in adolescents age 12 to 15 years against symptomatic infection. (VOC Delta)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 85% (95% CI, 81 to 89) at 14-149 days, in adolescents age 16 to 17 years against symptomatic infection. (VOC Delta)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 51% (95% CI, 30 to 65) at 14-67 days, in children age 5 to 11 years against symptomatic infection. (VOC Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 45% (95% CI, 30 to 57) at 14-149 days, in adolescents age 12 to 15 years against symptomatic infection. (VOC Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 34% (95% CI, 8 to 53) at 14-149 days, in adolescents age 16 to 17 years against symptomatic infection. (VOC Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>3<sup>rd</sup> dose</u> VE 81% (95% CI, 59 to 91) at least 7 days, in adolescents age 16 to 17 years against symptomatic infection. (VOC Omicron)</p>		
9	<a href="#">Oliveira</a>	<p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> VE 74% (95% CI, 18 to 92) at least 14 days, in adolescents age 12 to 18 years against infection. (VOC Delta)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 90% (95% CI, 79 to 95) at least 14 days, VE 91% (95% CI, 33 to 99) at 7-28 days, VE 90% (95% CI, 67 to 97) at 35-56 days, VE 95% (95% CI, 79 to 99) at 63-84 days, and VE 83% (95% CI, 34 to 95) at 91-119 days, in adolescents age 12 to 18 years against infection. (VOC Delta)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 93% (95% CI, 81 to 97) at least 14 days, in adolescents age 12 to 18 years against symptomatic infection. (VOC Delta)</p>	Moderate	<p>Matched case-control study In Connecticut (US) of 542 adolescents aged 12-18 years, including 186 case participants and 356 matched control participants, between Jun 1 - Aug 15, 2021; time and setting for VOC Delta.</p> <p><i>Included in LES 8.8</i></p>
10	<a href="#">Molteni</a>	<p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> VE 80.4% (95% CI, 78.5 to 82.2) at 14-30 days, VE 86.4% (95% CI, 83.5 to 88.7) at</p>	Serious	<p>Prospective cohort in the United Kingdom using data from the Covid Symptom Study</p>

		<p>1-2 months (28 to 56 days), and VE 61.5% (95% CI, 43.5 to 73.7) at 2-3 months (56 to 84 days), in adolescents age 12 to 17 years against infection. (VOC Delta)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> VE 53.7% (95% CI, 43.3 to 62.2) at 14-30 days, VE 57.9% (95% CI, 50.9 to 63.9) at 1-2 months (28 to 56 days), and VE 63.7% (95% CI, 59 to 67.9) at 2-3 months (56 to 84 days), in adolescents age 12 to 17 years against infection. (VOC Omicron)</p>		<p>(CSS), of 101,076 adolescents aged 12-17 years, between Aug 05, 2021–Feb 14, 2022; time and setting for VOC Delta to VOC Omicron.</p> <p>In the article, the effectiveness is presented as an adjusted relative risk reduction obtained by <math>RRR = (RR - 1) * 100</math>, in the present report it is transformed for the reader's understanding. <i>Included in LES 8.8</i></p>
11	<a href="#">Fowlkes</a>	<p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 81% (95% CI, 51 to 93) at least 14 days, and VE 87% (95% CI, 49 to 97) at 14-149 days, in adolescents age 12 to 15 years against infection. (VOC Delta)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 31% (95% CI, 9 to 48) at 14-82 days, in children age 5 to 11 years against infection. (VOC Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 59% (95% CI, 24 to 78) at least 14 days, and VE 59% (95% CI, 22 to 79) at 14-149 days, in adolescents age 12 to 15 years against infection. (VOC Omicron)</p>	Moderate	<p>Prospective cohort in four states of US (Arizona, Florida, Texas, and Utah), of 1,364 participants between Jul 2021–Feb 2022; the PROTECT cohort included 1,052 children aged 5–11 years and 312 adolescents aged 12–15 years that were tested weekly for SARS-CoV-2; viral whole genome sequencing was assessed, time and setting for VOC Delta to VOC Omicron. <i>Included in LES 8.8</i></p>
12	<a href="#">Araos</a>	<p>CoronaVac showed VE 38.2% (95% CI, 36.5 to 39.9) against infection, VE 64.6% (95% CI, 49.6 to 75.2) against hospitalization and VE 69% (95% CI, 18.6 to 88.2) against ICU admission at least +14 days after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> in children age 3 to 5 years. (VOC Omicron)</p>	Moderate	<p>Population based cohort in Chile, of 490,694 children aged 3–5 years, between Dec 06, 2021 - Feb 26, 2022; to estimate the effectiveness of the complete primary immunization schedule (two doses, 28 days apart) of an inactivated SARS-CoV-2 vaccine, CoronaVac; time and setting for VOC Omicron. <i>Included in LES 8.8</i></p>
13	<a href="#">Veneti</a>	<p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> VE 67.9 % (95% CI, 64.0 to 71.4) at 21-48 days, VE 55.8% (95% CI, 52.7 to 58.8) at 49-76 days, and VE 48.8% (95% CI, 46 to 51.5) at least 77 days, in adolescents age 12 to 15 years against infection. (VOC Delta)</p>	Moderate	<p>Population-based cohort in Norway, of 372,179 adolescents aged 12-17 years, between Aug 25, 2021 – Jan 16, 2022; to estimate BNT162b2 one dose effectiveness for individuals 12-15 years old and one or two doses effectiveness for individuals 16-17 years old</p>

	<p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> VE 62.6 % (95% CI, 56.2 to 68) at 21-48 days, VE 47.3% (95% CI, 40 to 53.8) at 49-76 days, and VE 29.3% (95% CI, 20.4 to 37.1) at least 77 days, in adolescents age 16 to 17 years against infection. (VOC Delta)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 90.8% (95% CI, 89.1 to 92.3) at 7-34 days, VE 92.8% (95% CI, 89.8 to 94.9) at 35-62 days, and VE 83.7% (95% CI, 75.9 to 89) at least 63 days, in adolescents age 16 to 17 years against infection. (VOC Delta)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> VE 16.2 % (95% CI, -2.4 to 31.3) at 21-48 days, VE -1.3% (95% CI, -22.4 to 16.2) at 49-76 days, and VE -12.8% (95% CI, -21.7 to -4.6) at least 77 days, in adolescents age 12 to 15 years against infection. (VOC Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> VE 33.7% (95% CI, -88.3 to 5.1) at 21-48 days, VE 16.8% (95% CI, -87.3 to 27.1) at 49-76 days, and VE -5.3% (95% CI, -32.9 to 16.6) at least 77 days, in adolescents age 16 to 17 years against infection. (VOC Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 53.1% (95% CI, 42.6 to 61.7) at 7-34 days, VE 45.7% (95% CI, 34.8 to 54.7) at 35-62 days, and VE 23.3% (95% CI, 2.7 to 39.5) at least 63 days, in adolescents age 16 to 17 years against infection. (VOC Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> VE 65 % (95% CI, 62.3 to 67.6) at 21-48 days, VE 57.3% (95% CI, 54.4 to 60) at 49-76 days, and VE 70.2% (95% CI, 45.9 to 83.6) at least 77 days, in adolescents age 12 to 15 years against infection. (VOC Delta to Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> VE 61.5 % (95% CI, 57.1 to 65.5) at 21-48 days, VE 48% (95% CI, 43.3 to 52.4) at</p>	<p>against SARS-CoV-2 infections; time and setting for VOC Delta to Omicron.  <i>Included in</i> <b>LES 8.9</b></p>
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		<p>49-76 days, and VE 47.5% (95% CI, 39 to 54.9) at least 77 days, in adolescents age 16 to 17 years against infection. (VOC Delta to Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 90.7% (95% CI, 87.4 to 93.1) at 7-34 days, VE 92.3% (95% CI, 82.9 to 96.6) at 35-62 days, and VE 87.8% (95% CI, 78.8 to 92.9) at least 63 days, in adolescents age 16 to 17 years against infection. (VOC Delta to Omicron)</p>		
14	<a href="#">Simmons</a>	<p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> VE 32% (95% CI, -49 to 72) at least 14 days in children age 4 to 11 years against hospitalization. (VOC Delta to Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> VE 38% (95% CI, -51 to 79) at least 14 days in adolescents age 12 to 17 years against hospitalization. (VOC Delta to Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>1<sup>st</sup> dose</u> VE 37% (95% CI, -13 to 67) at least 14 days in children and adolescents age 4 to 17 years against hospitalization. (VOC Delta to Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 59% (95% CI, 23 to 82) at least 14 days in adolescents age 12 to 17 years against hospitalization. (VOC Delta to Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 59% (95% CI, 23 to 79) at least 14 days in children and adolescents age 4 to 17 years against hospitalization. (VOC Delta to Omicron)</p>	Serious	<p>Age and time-matched nested case-control design in Ontario, Canada of 1,441 pediatric and adolescent patients aged 4-17 years, between May 28, 2021-Jan 10, 2022; to estimate the effectiveness of one and two mRNA vaccine doses at preventing hospitalization; time and setting for VOC Delta to VOC Omicron.</p> <p>Included in <b>LES 8.9</b></p>
15	<a href="#">Price</a>	<p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 93% (95% CI, 89 to 95) at 2–22 weeks in adolescents age 12 to 18 years against hospitalization. (VOC Delta)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 96% (95% CI, 90 to 98) at least 14 days in adolescents age 12 to 18 years against <b>critical COVID-19</b>. (VOC Delta)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 43% (95% CI, -1 to 68) at 2–22 weeks in</p>	Serious	<p>Test-negative case-control design in 23 states of the U.S among 2,812 adolescents aged 12–18 years between Jul 1, 2021– Feb 17, 2022. VE against Covid-19 leading to hospitalization and against critical Covid-19 was estimated comparing odds ratios of antecedent vaccination (fully vaccinated vs. unvaccinated) in case patients as compared with</p>

	<p>adolescents age 12 to 18 years against hospitalization. (VOC Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 68% (95% CI, 42 to 82) at least 14 days, in children age 5 to 11 years against hospitalization. (VOC Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 79% (95% CI, 51 to 91) at least 14 days in adolescents age 12 to 18 years against <b>critical COVID-19</b>. (VOC Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 83% (95% CI, 77 to 88) at least 14 days in adolescents age 12 to 15 years against hospitalization. (VOC Delta to Omicron)</p> <p>BNT162b2 showed after <u>2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u> VE 82% (95% CI, 74 to 88) at least 14 days in adolescents age 16 to 18 years against hospitalization. (VOC Delta to Omicron)</p>	<p>controls; time and setting for VOC Delta and VOC Omicron. <i>Included in</i> <b>LES 8.9</b></p>
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Section 2: excluded studies		
Author	Reason for exclusion	Version of exclusion
<a href="#">Tang</a>	Did not report the vaccine effectiveness in <18 years	<i>Excluded in LES 8.1</i>
<a href="#">Naleway</a>	Did not report results according to vaccine type	<i>Excluded in LES 8.1</i>
<a href="#">Chadeau-Hyam round 14</a>	Vaccine effectiveness not reported	<i>Excluded in LES 8.1</i>
<a href="#">de Gier</a>	Did not report results according to vaccine type	<i>Excluded in LES 8.2</i>
<a href="#">Delahoy</a>	Did not report results according to vaccine type	<i>Excluded in LES 8.2</i>
<a href="#">Lin</a>	Did not report the vaccine effectiveness in <18 years	<i>Excluded in LES 8.2*</i>
<a href="#">McLean</a>	Did not report the vaccine effectiveness in <18 years	<i>Excluded in LES 8.2</i>
<a href="#">Chadeau-Hyam round 15 final report</a>	Critical risk of bias	<i>Excluded in LES 8.2</i>
<a href="#">Chung</a>	Did not report the vaccine effectiveness in <18 years, Did not report results according to vaccine type	<i>Excluded in LES 8.3*</i>
<a href="#">Fisman</a>	Did not report the vaccine effectiveness in <18 years	<i>Excluded in LES 8.3</i>
<a href="#">Lyngse</a>	Did not report results according to vaccine type	<i>Excluded in LES 8.3</i>
<a href="#">Prunas</a>	Critical risk of bias	<i>Excluded in LES 8.3</i>
<a href="#">Chiew</a>	Critical risk of bias	<i>Excluded in LES 8.3</i>
<a href="#">Elliot</a>	Critical risk of bias	<i>Excluded in LES 8.4</i>
<a href="#">New York State Department of Health</a>	Did not report results according to vaccine type	<i>Excluded in LES 8.4</i>
<a href="#">Andeweg</a>	Did not report results according to vaccine type	<i>Excluded in LES 8.5</i>

<a href="#">Jalali</a>	Did not report results according to vaccine type	<i>Excluded in LES 8.5*</i>
<a href="#">Choe</a>	Critical risk of bias	<i>Excluded in LES 8.6</i>
<a href="#">Britton</a>	Critical risk of bias	<i>Excluded in LES 8.6</i>
<a href="#">Madhi</a>	Did not report the vaccine effectiveness in <18 years	<i>Excluded in LES 8.6</i>
<a href="#">Dorabawila</a>	Critical risk of bias	<i>Excluded in LES 8.6</i>
<a href="#">De Serres</a>	Did not report results according to vaccine type	<i>Excluded in LES 8.7</i>
<a href="#">Nyberg</a>	Did not report results according to vaccine type	<i>Excluded in LES 8.7</i>
<a href="#">Hoeg</a>	Clinical outcomes of interest for this LES not reported	<i>Excluded in LES 8.7</i>
<a href="#">Levi</a>	Did not report results according to vaccine type	<i>Excluded in LES 8.7</i>
<a href="#">Nygard</a>	Critical risk of bias	<i>Excluded in LES 8.8</i>
<a href="#">Chemaitelly</a>	Did not report the vaccine effectiveness in <18 years	<i>Excluded in LES 8.8</i>
<a href="#">AlHosani</a>	Did not report the vaccine effectiveness in <18 years	<i>Excluded in LES 8.8</i>
<a href="#">Ng</a>	Vaccine effectiveness not reported	<i>Excluded in LES 8.8</i>

\* For this studies links have been updated after their exclusion

## Appendix 2: Glossary (revised 13 Jan 2022)

**AZ:** AstraZeneca

**Alpha:** variant of concern B.1.1.7

**Beta:** variant of concern B.1.351

**Delta:** variant of concern B.1.617.2

**Gamma:** variant of concern P.1

**Epsilon:** variant of concern B.1.427/B.1.429

**MIS-C:** Multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children

**MOD:** Moderna

**Obs:** observational study

**OR:** odds ratio

**PF:** Pfizer

**RME:** range of mean estimates across 2 or more studies

**VE (Vaccine effectiveness):** measure of how well a vaccine protects people from getting the outcome of interest in real-world practice (For example: VE of 92% against infection means that 92% of people will be protected from becoming infected with COVID and 8% of people will still be at risk of becoming infected with COVID)

**VE<sub>T</sub>:** vaccine effectiveness against transmission

**VOC:** variant of concern

**VOI:** variant of interest

**Appendix 3: Data-extraction template (revised 13 Jan 2022)**

<b>Vaccine product</b>	
Source	First author of study
Link	DOI or PubMed ID
Date published	in format YYYY/MM/DD or preprint
Country	
Funding	public or industry
<b>Study details</b>	
Study type	RCT/cohort/data-linkage/test-negative/case-control/other
Surveillance	routine screening Y or N
Intervention	Pfizer/Comirnaty [BNT162b2]/Moderna/Spikevax [mRNA-1273]/AstraZeneca/Vaxzevria [ChAdOx1]/Johnson & Johnson [AD26.COV2.S]/Sinovac [CoronaVac]/Sinopharm (Wuhan) [WIV04]/Novavax [NVX-CoV2373]/FBRI [EpiVacCorona]/Bharat Biotech [Covaxin] [BBV152]/Gamaleya [Sputnik V] [Gam-COVID-Vac]
Dose and timing	
Control group	not vaccinated, <7day vaccinated internal control, none, other
Total (N)	number of all study participants
Female	number or %
< 12 years	number or %
<b>≥ 12 years</b>	number or %
<b>Outcomes</b>	outcomes separated by VOC type
Outcomes	confirmed infection/asymptomatic/mild symptomatic/severe symptoms/hospitalized/ICU/death/MIS-C
1st Dose VE	VE with 95% CI
Days post 1st dose	days post 1st dose when VE provided
2nd Dose VE	VE with 95% CI
Days post 2nd dose	days post 2nd dose when VE provided
Rates per X person-days/years	vaccinated vs control
HR	vaccinated vs control
RR	vaccinated vs control
Adjusted	Regression, stratification, matching and associated variables
<b>Transmission</b>	infection rates in unvaccinated contacts of vaccinated individuals
<b>Critical appraisal</b>	See Appendix 5

#### **Appendix 4: Process for assigning Variant of Concern to studies**

A Variant of Concern is considered to be the dominant ( $\geq 50\%$ ) strain in a study if any of the following conditions apply:

- i) the authors make a statement about prevalence of VOC during the study time frame
- ii) time and setting of the study is consistent with a VOC being dominant according to the following open tracking sources:

Nextstrain. Real-time tracking of pathogen evolution. <https://nextstrain.org/>

Outbreak Info. <https://outbreak.info/location-reports>

## Appendix 5: Research question and critical appraisal process (revised 13 Jan 2022)

Review question:

Participants	People aged under 18 years at risk of COVID-19 (usually without but sometimes with previous COVID-19 infection)
Intervention	COVID-19 Vaccine
Comparator	Unvaccinated children and adolescents (*)
Outcomes	PCR-diagnosis of COVID-19 infection; symptomatic disease; hospital/ICU admission; death; transmission; MIS-C

(\*) Eligible studies must have a comparison group (unvaccinated; non-immune period; time since vaccination; 2 doses vs 3 doses); before-after studies, where the infection rate in the first 2 weeks after the vaccination are used as control are commonly performed and may be appraised

### Key exclusion criteria

Studies that address the question of interest but from which the information of children cannot be separated from that of adults.

Comparison of one vaccine vs another (e.g., relative effectiveness) is not eligible.

Studies reporting only antibody responses are excluded.

### Critical Appraisal Process

We appraise the quality of the individual studies using an adapted version of ROBINS-I. This tool classifies the Risk of Bias of a study as **Low, Moderate, Serious, Critical, or No Information**. Low Risk of Bias indicates High Quality, and Critical Risk of Bias indicates Very Low (insufficient) Quality. ROBINS-I appraises 7 bias domains and judges each study against an ideal reference randomized controlled trial. To improve the utility of ROBINS-I for assessing studies reporting vaccine effectiveness, we have focused on study characteristics that introduce bias as reported in the vaccine literature. (WHO. Evaluation of COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness. Interim Guidance. 17 March 2021). Studies rated as “critical” risk of bias will not be included in the Summary statements on Page 1-2 (exception: if limited data available for an outcome for a VOC). An overall judgement of “serious” or “critical” is given when the study is judged to be at serious or critical risk of bias in at least one domain or “serious” in 3 separate ROBINS-I domains.

VE Study Characteristics that may introduce bias	Description
<b>Study design</b>  <b>ROBINS-I: Bias in selection of participants into study</b>	<p>In cohort studies, people who get vaccinated may differ in health-seeking behaviour from people who do not get vaccinated; using a test-negative study design minimizes this type of bias</p> <p><u>Examples and typical judgement:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● test-negative design with a clearly defined symptomatic study population (low)</li> <li>● test-negative design (mixed or unclear study population) or case-control or cohort design or data-linkage with no concerns (moderate)</li> <li>● cross-sectional design or case-control (concerns about whether controls had same access to vaccines/risk of exposure to COVID or unclear) or cohort design (concerns that exposed and</li> </ul>

	non-exposed were not drawn from the same population) (serious)
<b>Method for confirming vaccination</b>  <b>ROBINS-I: Bias in classification of interventions</b>	<p>Questionnaires are prone to recollection bias; Population databases developed for purpose of tracking COVID vaccines minimize this type of bias</p> <p><u>Examples and typical judgement:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● database linkage study (low)</li> <li>● Questionnaire with confirmation by an additional method (e.g., registry) of at least a subset of study population (moderate)</li> <li>● Questionnaire without confirmation by an additional method (serious)</li> <li>● Estimating vaccination status based on surveillance data alone (critical)</li> </ul>
<b>Databases used for retrieval of COVID test results, participant prognostic factors, and clinical outcomes</b>  <b>ROBINS-I: Bias in classification of interventions</b>	<p>Databases developed for collecting data on COVID are less prone to bias due to missing information and misclassification</p> <p><u>Examples and typical judgement:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● database for non-COVID purpose but with individual level data (moderate)</li> <li>● database for non-COVID purpose without individual level data (serious)</li> <li>● no or unclear description of database type (critical)</li> </ul>
<b>Assignment of infection start date</b>  <b>ROBINS-I: Bias in classification of interventions</b>	<p>Using date of symptom onset (if within 10 days of testing) as infection start date reduces risk of misclassification bias (e.g., vaccinated participant who is reported as COVID+ may have been infected prior to receiving the vaccine or during non-immune period) and sensitivity of assays decreases over time</p> <p><u>Examples and typical judgement:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● using a PCR positive test that was part of an ongoing standardized monitoring system (e.g., within a health network) (low)</li> <li>● using sample date without interview or documented confirmation of symptoms <math>\leq 10</math> days (relevant for symptomatic disease only) (serious)</li> </ul>
<b>Verification of symptoms</b>  <b>ROBINS-I: Bias in classification of interventions</b>	<p>Prospective, standardized collection of symptoms from patients reduces risk of missing information bias; testing within 10 days after symptom onset reduces risk of false-negative COVID test</p> <p><u>Examples and typical judgement:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● using sample date without patient report/ documented confirmation of symptoms <math>\leq 10</math> days (relevant for symptomatic disease only) (serious)</li> <li>● if symptomatic COVID is not an outcome (no information)</li> </ul>
<b>Accounting for non-immune period (first 14 days after first vaccine dose)</b>	<p>Reported absence of vaccine effect during non-immune period reduces risk of residual confounding bias</p> <p><u>Example/common case:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● presence of an effect during non-immune period or result not reported (moderate)</li> </ul>

<p><b>ROBINS-I: Bias due to confounding</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● unclear that non-immune period was considered (serious)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Inclusion of participants with prior COVID infection</b></p> <p><b>ROBINS-I: Bias due to confounding</b></p>	<p>Exclusion (or separate analysis) of participants with prior COVID infection reduces concern about differences in infectivity as well as risk-taking and health-seeking behaviour</p> <p><u>Examples and typical judgement:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● inclusion of prior infection status as a covariate in the models (moderate)</li> <li>● previously infected not excluded or analyzed separately (serious)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Accounting for calendar time</b></p> <p><b>ROBINS-I: Bias due to confounding (time-varying confounding)</b></p>	<p>Accounting for calendar time reduces bias due to differences in vaccine accessibility and risk of exposure over time</p> <p><u>Examples and typical judgement:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● use of time-varying statistics without explicit mention of adjustment for calendar time (moderate)</li> <li>● not taken into account but short-time frame (e.g., <math>\leq 2</math> months) (serious)</li> <li>● not taken into account and time frame <math>&gt; 2</math> months (critical)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Adjustment for prognostic factors</b></p> <p><b>ROBINS-I: Bias due to confounding</b></p>	<p>Adjustment for prognostic factors for COVID infection, severity of disease, and vaccination, such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic factors, occupation (HCW, LTC), and chronic medical conditions</p> <p><u>Examples and typical judgement:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● no or insufficient adjustment for occupation (or number of tests as a surrogate for exposure risk) -exception age <math>&gt; 65</math> or LTCF resident (moderate)</li> <li>● no or insufficient adjustment for socioeconomic factors (or neighborhood or income as a surrogate), race, ethnicity (serious)</li> <li>● no or insufficient adjustment for age (any study population) or chronic medical conditions (LTC)(critical)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Testing frequency</b></p> <p><b>ROBINS-I: Bias in measurement of outcomes</b></p>	<p>Similar frequency of testing between groups reduces risk of bias introduced by detecting asymptomatic infection in one group but not in another (e.g., when only one group undergoes surveillance screening)</p> <p><u>Examples and typical judgement:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● no systematic screening but consistent methods for detection in one group vs. the other, e.g., within health networks (moderate)</li> <li>● screening performed for a subset of both study groups (serious)</li> <li>● screening performed routinely in one study group but not in the other (critical)</li> </ul>

## **Appendix 6: Detailed description of the narrative summary statement (revised 13 Jan 2022)**

We include studies with the following clinical outcomes: prevention of infection, MIS-C, severe disease (as defined by the study investigators), hospitalization, death, and prevention of transmission. These outcomes were selected because they are less susceptible to bias, or they are important for parents and patients. If data are not available for these specific outcomes, but are available for symptomatic infection, data for these additional outcomes are provided temporarily.

We aim at providing a lay language, standardized summary statement for each combination of vaccine and VOC for which we found evidence.

Where more than one study was found, we will provide a summary statement with a **range of the estimates across the studies**.

Where a single study provided data, we will provide the **estimate plus 95% confidence interval** for that study. As additional studies are added, the estimate plus confidence interval will be replaced by a range as described above.

In the summaries, “prevented” or “protects” will be applied to mean estimates or range of mean estimates that are greater than or equal to 50%.

**Appendix 7: Table 1b. Visual summary of evidence for COVID-19 vaccines overall and for variants of concern (Moderate to Low Risk of Bias Studies compared to All studies)**

Top yellow row = moderate or low ROB studies only

Bottom orange row = serious ROB studies only

Outcome (and vaccine)	Vaccine Effectiveness (2 doses unless otherwise stated) for each combination of vaccine, variant, and outcome					
	Overall	Alpha	Beta	Gamma	Delta	Omicron
<b>Any Infection</b>						
Pfizer	91% (1 Obs – ref 3)				81 to 92% (5 Obs – ref 2,6,9,11, 13)	59% (1 Obs – ref 11)
	Same single study				91.5% (1 Obs - ref 1)	53.1% (1 Obs - ref 13)
Moderna						
CoronaVac						38% (1 Obs – ref 12)
						Same single study
<b>Symptomatic Infection</b>						
Pfizer					87 to 96% (2 Obs - ref 5,9)	71 to 83% (1 Obs - ref 5)
					Same single study	Same single study
Moderna						
CoronaVac						
<b>Transmission</b>						
Pfizer						
Moderna						
CoronaVac						
<b>ICU Admission</b>						
Pfizer					98% (1 Obs - ref 4)	
					Same single study	
Moderna						
CoronaVac						69% (1 Obs – ref 12)
CoronaVac						Same single study
<b>Severe Disease (may include death for some studies)</b>						
Pfizer						
Moderna						
CoronaVac						
<b>Death</b>						
Pfizer						
Moderna						
CoronaVac						

\*\*mean estimate of effect less than the lowest acceptable limit for vaccine effectiveness as determined by WHO

Notes:

Comparing Table 1 with Table 1b allows you to see whether it is an RCT or multiple Obs studies that determined the “moderate certainty of evidence” rating on Table 1