## Global spotlight 9.1: Key additions for the first half of September 2021



There are two newly added evidence syntheses and seven updates to living evidence syntheses that are already included in the public-health measures parts of the COVID-END inventory of 'best' evidence syntheses\*, 17 newly added evidence syntheses and three updates to living evidence syntheses that are already included in the clinical management parts of the inventory, one newly added evidence synthesis in the health-system arrangements part 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	Criteria for best evidence synthesis			
		synthesis	Date of last search	Quality (AMST AR) rating	Evidence profile (e.g., GRADE) available	
Public-health measures	Evidence shows that digital interventions can facilitate improvements in behaviours that promote community hygiene (especially hand washing) [Review of studies of variable quality conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic and before]	Newly added rapid review	2021-05-26	8/10	No	
Public-health measures	Patients with mild to moderate COVID-19 and who have suppressed immune systems more frequently show recurrent PCR positivity [Review of studies of moderate quality]	Newly added full review	2021-05-06	8/11	No	
Public-health measures	[BioNTech/Pfizer or Moderna to complete vaccination scheme started with Astra Zeneca against variants of concern] Vaccinating with Astra Zeneca followed by BioNTech/Pfizer or Moderna vaccine may prevent symptomatic infection from the Alpha variant of concern	Update to living rapid review	2021-09-09	7/9	No	
Public-health measures	[Gamaleya Research Institute against variants of concern] Gamaleya Research Institute vaccine may prevent ICU admission and death from the Delta variant of concern	Update to living rapid review	2021-09-09	7/9	No	
Public-health measures	[Johnson & Johnson against variants of concern] Johnson & Johnson vaccine probably prevents severe disease from the Beta variant of concern and may prevent symptomatic infection from the Delta variant of concern	Update to living rapid review	2021-09-09	7/9	No	
Public-health measures	[Moderna against variants of concern] Moderna vaccine probably prevents infection from the Alpha variant of concern, and it may prevent infection from the Beta, Gamma and Delta variants of concern	Update to living rapid review	2021-09-09	7/9	No	

Public-health measures  Public-health	[Oxford/AstraZeneca against variants of concern] Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine probably prevents infection from the Alpha and Delta variants of concern, and it may not prevent infection from the Beta variant of concern; it may prevent ICU admission and death from the Delta variant of concern  The relationship between smoking status and	Update to living rapid review	2021-09-09	6/11	No No
measures	infection, hospitalization and mortality is uncertain; current smokers may be at reduced risk of infection compared with non-smokers (although they appear to be more likely to be tested), but former smokers may have an increased risk of hospitalisation and greater disease severity [Review of observational studies]	living rapid review	2021-07-16	0/11	INO
Public-health measures	[Sinopharm against variants of concern] Sinopharm vaccine may prevent ICU admission and death from the Delta variant of concern	Update to living rapid review	2021-07-12	7/9	No
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Aspirin] Among hospitalized patients, aspirin may slightly reduce mortality and makes little or no difference in clinical improvement	Newly added living review	2021-09-10	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Photobiomodulation therapy] Using photobiomodulation therapy may reduce mortality; the effects on other outcomes are uncertain	Newly added living review	2021-09-10	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	The effects of prone position for the treatment of COVID-19 patients are currently uncertain	Newly added living review	2021-09-10	10/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[APN01] The effects of APN01 cannot yet be assessed; upcoming studies are expected to be published soon	Newly added living review	2021-05-13	6/9	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Camostat] Although several trials are ongoing, the only one that has been finished shows no benefit of camostat among hospitalized patients	Newly added living review	2021-05-11	6/9	No
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Vitamin D] High-dose vitamin D may not have an effect on mortality, whereas it probably reduces the rate of ICU admission and it may reduce the rate of mechanical ventilation	Newly added living review	2021-05-05	7/9	Yes

Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Mavrilimumab] The effects of mavrilimumab to treat COVID-19 patients are currently uncertain	Newly added living review	2021-05-03	6/9	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Corticosteroids] Using corticosteroids probably reduces mortality slightly and may increase ventilator-free days; the effects on other outcomes are uncertain	Newly added living review	2021-04-16	11/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Aspirin] Active prescription of low-dose aspirin may reduce mortality among COVID-19 patients during or prior to hospitalization	Newly added full review	2021-04-16	8/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	[Sofosbuvir/daclatasvir] In hospitalized COVID-19 patients, sofosbuvir/daclatasvir probably decreases mortality and the need for ICU or mechanical ventilation, while it may improve clinical recovery	Newly added full review	2021-04-06	8/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	Limited evidence is available to demonstrate a true association between COVID-19 and tinnitus [Review of studies of variable quality of unknown heterogeneity]	Newly added full review	2021-03-31	8/11	No
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	Sleep problems were observed in one third of the population during the COVID-19 pandemic, and was more frequently observed in healthcare workers [Review of studies of variable quality and important heterogeneity among their findings]	Newly added full review	2021-03-19	8/11	No
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	While atrial fibrillation was observed in a highly variable range of COVID-19 patients, being older, hypertensive, diabetic, having cardiovascular diseases and critical clinical status were all associated with a higher frequency of the condition [Review of studies of low to moderate quality and important heterogeneity among their findings]	Newly added full review	2021-03-10	8/11	No
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	The effects of prone position in comparison to supine position in COVID-19 patients are uncertain	Newly added full review	2021-03-01	11/11	Yes
Clinical management of COVID-19 and pandemic-related health issues	COVID-19 associated pulmonary aspergillosis has been reported in 14% of COVID-19 cases admitted to ICU, and may be associated with higher mortality rates [Review of studies of mainly moderate quality]	Newly added full review	2021-02-27	8/11	No
Clinical management of COVID-19 and	Age, pre-existing comorbidities, and greater inflammatory response are associated with higher mortality in patients admitted to ICU with COVID-19, while sex and BMI were	Newly added full review	2021-02-21	8/11	No

pandemic-related	not. [Review of studies of moderate quality				
health issues	with important heterogeneity among their				
11041011 100 000	findings]				
Clinical	Lockdown measures have had important	Newly	2021-01-12	8/10	No
management of	biopsychosocial consequences, including	added full			
COVID-19 and	influences on mental health, particularly	review			
pandemic-related	among vulnerable populations [Review of				
health issues	studies of moderate quality]				
Clinical	[Anakinra] In hospitalized COVID-19	Update to	2021-09-10	10/11	Yes
management of	patients, anakinra may have little or no	living			
COVID-19 and	difference in mortality while it slightly reduce	review			
pandemic-related	disease progression; it probably slightly				
health issues	increase clinical improvement and it probably				
	does not increase the adverse events				
Clinical	[Budesonide] The effects of using budesonide	Update to	2021-09-10	10/11	Yes
management of	in mild COVID-19 outpatients are currently	living			
COVID-19 and	uncertain	review			
pandemic-related					
health issues					
Clinical	[Sofosbuvir/daclatasvir] Among hospitalized	Update to	2021-09-10	10/11	Yes
management of	COVID-19 patients, using	living			
COVID-19 and	sofosbuvir/daclatasvir may produce little or	review			
pandemic-related	no difference in the incidence of clinical				
health issues	improvement, and may not increase the				
	adverse events; its effects on other outcomes				
	are uncertain				
Health-system	Maternity care seeking and provision have	Newly	2021-04-17	8/11	No
arrangements	been reduced globally during the COVID-19	added full			
	pandemic [Review of studies of variable	review			
	quality]				
Economic and	The evidence on the challenges of switching	Newly	2020-09-20	5/9	No
social responses	classes to emergency remote education has	added rapid			
	been associated with teachers' digital	review			
	competencies, family access to technology,				
	parental engagement, and student wellbeing				
	[Review of studies of unknown quality]				