

# Evidence/Guidance Community Window

## Evolving Description of ACTS Collaborative Participant's COVID-19 Knowledge Ecosystem Efforts

This page is for organizations focused on synthesizing evidence and producing clinical guidance to document best practices, tools, resources, needs, and other aspects of their work. The purpose of the documentation is to facilitate the uptake of high-quality evidence and guidance into clinical decision support and performance measures, to highlight best practice, and to foster inter-agency cooperation and support within the [knowledge ecosystem](#) for COVID-19 and beyond. The first set of tables apply broadly to COVID-19 (and other targets), and the second set of tables refer to evidence and guidance specifically related to the Collaborative's current focus targets; i.e., COVID-19 testing and triage, and anticoagulant use.

Those providing data for these tables should consider, "What do you want those who seek to implement 'living guidance' to know about evidence synthesis and guidance development strategies and tools to make their efforts more successful? Likewise, "What do *you* want to know about efforts of others working in the knowledge ecosystem to make your efforts more successful?"

If you have been requested to provide information for these tables by a project lead and need a Word version to do this, use [this document](#).

### Forms from Collaborative Participants

- [COVID-END](#)
- [COVID-NMA](#)

## Overarching Description of Evidence Synthesis/Guideline Development Community Best Practices, Tools, Resources

	Identify (Search/Screen) Primary Studies (See <a href="#">this CoP page</a> )	Synthesize Evidence (including Assessing Quality) (See <a href="#">this CoP page</a> )
<b>Current Approach<sup>1</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Monitoring new trials and reviews on the L*VE Epistemonikos platform and the Cochrane COVID-19 study register</a> (COVID-NMA Initiative)</li></ul>	<p>From COVID-END:</p> <p>Identify published systematic and rapid reviews from trusted sources (including VA ESP Covid-19 Evidence Reviews and Cochrane) and present these in the COVID-END inventory</p> <p>Categorise into four mutually exclusive taxonomies: clinical management, public health measures, health system arrangements and economic and social resources.</p> <p>Add decision-relevant information to each document included in the inventory in order to support easier assessments of relevance, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• flagging review search dates (to support assessments of how up-to-date the evidence is);</li></ul> <p>appraising and reporting quality using AMSTAR 1 tool (to provide information about the quality of each review);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• identifying which reviews are living and which have a GRADE evidence profile; and</li><li>• creating declarative titles for ease of understanding and applicability for policymaker end user.</li></ul> <p>---</p> <p>From COVID-NMA Initiative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">For each new RCT record and publish key information in a trial network map</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Undertake risk of bias assessment</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Extract data relating to pre-determine outcomes, create and publish forest plots of quantitative data as appropriate</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Undertake GRADE evidence profiles for all comparisons</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Update and maintain GRADE evidence profiles as more trials are published</a></li></ul>

<b>Pearls /Tips Learned /Tools</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (From Sara Loree: CDC and WHO are combining their COVID databases; <a href="#">OSF database of COVID-19 intervention trials</a>; <a href="#">WHO Librarian Reserve Corps</a>)</li> <li>• We have determined that monitoring and searching the two sources above precludes the need for other individual database searches. (COVID-NMA Initiative)</li> </ul>	<p>From COVID-END</p> <p>Match response to need (in this case, a prototypical 25-year-old policy analyst being asked by senior decision-makers for best evidence across a broad range of issues on very short timelines)</p> <p>Use an online administrative interface for processing records (rather than Excel) and a more elegant front-end solution for displaying the inventory</p> <p>---</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resources and tools for researchers considering and conducting COVID-19 evidence syntheses (From COVID-END Synthesizing WG)</li> <li>• (from Sara Loree: <a href="#">OSF protocol for living evidence summary</a>)</li> <li>• We have developed a tool for monitoring the preprint servers to identify changes to the data presented. (COVID-NMA Initiative)</li> </ul>
<b>Desired Approach</b>	<p>Map of all RCTs for prevention and treatment of COVID-19 including vaccines and rehabilitation. (COVID-NMA Initiative)</p>	<p>We have initiated communication with all trialists to try to ensure consistent approaches e.g. selection of outcomes, reduction of risk of bias, and to invite them to contribute missing data. We also aim to request individual participant data. (COVID-NMA Initiative)</p>
<b>Needs to Achieve Desired Approach</b>	<p>Check all that apply</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Better source/input materials [Details: ]</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Common format/terminologies for managing/sharing data [Details: ]</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other [Details:]</p> <p>Check all that apply (COVID-NMA Initiative)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Better source/input materials [Details: ]</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Common format/terminologies for managing/sharing data [Details: ]</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other [Details:]</p>	<p>From COVID-END:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Better source/input materials [Details: ] Harvest from all high-yield, high-quality sources</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Common format/terminologies for managing/sharing data [Details: ] COVID-END taxonomy</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consistency of outcomes [Details:]</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with primary researchers and upstream stakeholders [Details: When gaps in the best-available evidence related to the pandemic response are identified (e.g., a taxonomy category in the inventory has no high-quality evidence synthesis available) engaging researchers and research funders may help to set priorities for research needed to fill gaps]</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with decision makers and other downstream stakeholders [Details:] Regulator interactions with government officials in many Canadian provinces and in many other countries</p> <p>Check all that apply (COVID-NMA Initiative)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Better source/input materials [Details: ]</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Common format/terminologies for managing/sharing data [Details: ]</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consistency of outcomes [Details:]</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with primary researchers and upstream stakeholders [Details:]</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with decision makers and other downstream stakeholders [Details:]</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other [Details:]</p> <p>---</p> <p>Check all that apply</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Better source/input materials [Details: ]</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Common format/terminologies for managing/sharing data [Details: ]</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Consistency of outcomes [Details:]</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Engagement with primary researchers and upstream stakeholders [Details:]</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Engagement with decision makers and other downstream stakeholders [Details:]</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other [Details:]</p>

Support You Can Provide Other Participants	Living network mapping of RCTs: Metadata and other details of primary studies included in our evidence syntheses (COVID-NMA Initiative)	<p>From COVID-END</p> <p>The COVID-END Inventory aims to identify best current evidence in the four taxonomies, and to identify those reviews that are living, up to date, high quality and where there is a GRADE evidence profile. Inventory also provides link to the underlying reviews in addition to outputs described above.</p> <p>COVID-END has also established an international horizon scanning group that meets monthly, an equity group that aims to identify means of increasing the visibility of measures aimed at reducing inequity, and aims also to commission living systematic reviews to address high priority areas that may not have been sufficiently addressed by evidence synthesis researchers.</p> <p>Further outputs include resources for researchers and guidelines developers that are proposing to conduct a systematic review or develop clinical practice guidelines – aimed at reducing inadvertent and inappropriate duplication of effort and increasing the quality of reviews and guidelines produced</p> <p>---</p> <p>Living comprehensive assessment of all RCTs that address prevention and treatment of COVID-19</p> <p>Living evidence syntheses and network meta-analysis as appropriate. (COVID-NMA Initiative)</p>
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For this row and the next, include URLs/pointers to documents outlining steps to accomplish the tasks, tools that support this work and/or other items critical for others working along the evidence/knowledge to know about to make their work optimally efficient, appropriate and effective.

	Produce Guidance (See <a href="#">this CoP page</a> )	Make Guidance Computable (See <a href="#">this CoP page</a> )
Current Approach		
Pearls/Tips Learned/Tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2011 NAM (IOM) Standards for Guidelines</li> </ul>	
Desired Approach		
Needs to Achieve Desired Approach	<p>Check all that apply</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Better source/input materials [Details: ]</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Common format/terminologies for managing/sharing data [Details: ]</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other [Details:]</p>	<p>Check all that apply</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Better source/input materials [Details: ]</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Common format /terminologies for managing /sharing data [Details: ]</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other [Details:]</p>
Support You Can Provide Other Participants	<p>Librarian Reserve Corps (LRC):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COVID-Evidence Project - building a database to gather all the evidence around a drug (University of Basil - currently focused on hydroxychloroquine, but model could be adaptable to other targets)</li> <li>Identification of sources to identify primary studies - validation study of specialized COVID-19 databases (systematic reviewers are going to different sources - this effort is to identify best practices)</li> <li>Advocate for librarian representation in searches and reviews - leverage skillsets/best practices in this work</li> <li>[SLMC]: close gaps between needs that clinicians are seeing on the front line and topics covered in reviews guidelines</li> </ul>	

	Implement Guidance (e.g., as CDS, eQMs) (See <a href="#">this CoP page</a> )	Analyze Results (e.g., care outcomes) (See <a href="#">this CoP page</a> )	Apply Results (e.g., QI, create evidence) (See <a href="#">this CoP page</a> )
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<b>Current Approach</b>			
<b>Pearls/Tips Learned/Tools</b>			
<b>Desired Approach</b>			
<b>Needs to Achieve Desired Approach</b>	Check all that apply __Better source/input materials [Details: ] __Common format/terminologies for managing/sharing data [Details: ] __Other [Details:]	Check all that apply __Better source/input materials [Details: ] __Common format/terminologies for managing/sharing data [Details: ] __Other [Details:]	Check all that apply __Better source/input materials [Details: ] __Common format/terminologies for managing/sharing data [Details: ] __Other [Details:]
<b>Support You Can Provide Other Participants</b>			

Stakeholders can place comments at the bottom of any Learning Community page. If you need editing access to these Participant Window pages, please contact [support@ahrq-acts.org](mailto:support@ahrq-acts.org).

#### Drill Down into Evidence Synthesis/Guideline Development Community Best Practices, Tools, Resources For ACTS Collaborative Focus Targets

#### COVID-19 Testing/Triage (ED and ambulatory settings)

	Identify (Search/Screen) Primary Studies	Synthesize Evidence (including Assessing Quality)
<b>Current Approach</b>		
<b>Pearls/Tips Learned/Tools</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BMJ EBM <a href="#">rapid review on COVID tests</a></li> </ul>
<b>Desired Approach</b>		
<b>Needs to Achieve Desired Approach</b>	Check all that apply __Better source/input materials [Details: ] __Common format/terminologies for managing/sharing data [Details: ] __Other [Details:]	Check all that apply __Better source/input materials [Details: ] __Common format/terminologies for managing/sharing data [Details: ] __Consistency of outcomes [Details:] __Engagement with primary researchers and upstream stakeholders [Details:] __Engagement with decision makers and other downstream stakeholders [Details:] __Other [Details:]
<b>Support You Can Provide Other Participants</b>		

	Produce Guidance	Make Guidance Computable
<b>Current Approach</b>		
<b>Pearls/Tips Learned/Tools</b>		
<b>Desired Approach</b>		

<b>Needs to Achieve Desired Approach</b>	Check all that apply __Better source/input materials [Details: ] __Common format/terminologies for managing /sharing data [Details: ] __Other [Details:]	Check all that apply __Better source/input materials [Details: ] __Common format/terminologies for managing /sharing data [Details: ] __Other [Details:]
<b>Support You Can Provide Other Participants</b>		

	<b>Implement Guidance (e.g., as CDS, eQMs)</b>	<b>Analyze Results (e.g., care outcomes)</b>	<b>Apply Results (e.g., Quality Improvement, create evidence)</b>
<b>Current Approach</b>			
<b>Pearls/Tips Learned/Tools</b>			
<b>Desired Approach</b>			
<b>Needs to Achieve Desired Approach</b>	Check all that apply __Better source/input materials [Details: ] __Common format/terminologies for managing/sharing data [Details: ] __Other [Details:]	Check all that apply __Better source/input materials [Details: ] __Common format/terminologies for managing/sharing data [Details: ] __Other [Details:]	Check all that apply __Better source/input materials [Details: ] __Common format/terminologies for managing/sharing data [Details: ] __Other [Details:]
<b>Support You Can Provide Other Participants</b>			

## Anticoagulation

	<b>Identify (Search/Screen) Primary Studies</b>	<b>Synthesize Evidence (including Assessing Quality)</b>
<b>Current Approach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Rapid Cochrane review on anticoagulation in COVID-19 patients</a></li> </ul>	
<b>Pearls/Tips Learned/Tools</b>		
<b>Desired Approach</b>		
<b>Needs to Achieve Desired Approach</b>	Check all that apply __Better source/input materials [Details: ] __Common format/terminologies for managing /sharing data [Details: ] __Other [Details:]	Check all that apply __Better source/input materials [Details: ] __Common format/terminologies for managing/sharing data [Details: ] __Consistency of outcomes [Details:] __Engagement with primary researchers and upstream stakeholders [Details:] __Engagement with decision makers and other downstream stakeholders [Details:] __Other [Details:]
<b>Support You Can Provide Other Participants</b>		

	<b>Produce Guidance</b>	<b>Make Guidance Computable</b>
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<b>Current Approach</b>		
<b>Pearls/Tips Learned/Tools</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">ASH Living Guideline on COVID anticoagulation</a> and underlying justification and evidence tables (<a href="#">critically ill</a> and <a href="#">acutely ill</a>)</li> <li>• L*VE/Epistemonikos <a href="#">search on antithrombotics</a>; can send email when new study/review/guideline is published.</li> </ul>	
<b>Desired Approach</b>		
<b>Needs to Achieve Desired Approach</b>	Check all that apply <input type="checkbox"/> Better source/input materials [Details: ] <input type="checkbox"/> Common format/terminologies for managing/sharing data [Details: ] <input type="checkbox"/> Other [Details:]	Check all that apply <input type="checkbox"/> Better source/input materials [Details: ] <input type="checkbox"/> Common format/terminologies for managing/sharing data [Details: ] <input type="checkbox"/> Other [Details:]
<b>Support You Can Provide Other Participants</b>		

	<b>Implement Guidance (e.g., as CDS, eQMs)</b>	<b>Analyze Results (e.g., care outcomes)</b>	<b>Apply Results (e.g., Quality Improvement, create evidence)</b>
<b>Current Approach</b>			
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