

PICO and eligibility criteria for prevention and management of thromboembolism in COVID-19 (RG23)

PICO and eligibility criteria

Question 1:

- What is the effectiveness and safety of pharmacological prophylaxis to reduce the risk of venous thromboembolism in adults receiving care for suspected or confirmed COVID-19?

Criteria	Notes
Population	Adults (aged 16 years and older) being treated for suspected or confirmed COVID-19
Interventions	Pharmacological prophylaxis with: Direct oral anticoagulants (DOACs) Low molecular weight heparin (LMWH) Unfractionated heparin (UFH) Fondaparinux sodium
Comparators	To each other Placebo / no treatment Same drug with different dosing strategy
Outcomes	Incidence of venous thromboembolism (VTE, PE, DVT) Mortality (all-cause mortality, inpatient mortality, COVID-related mortality)

	<p>Admission to critical care (including use of advanced organ support)</p> <p>Serious adverse effects (such as major bleeding or admission to hospital)</p>
Settings	All settings
Subgroups	<p>Subgroups of people potentially at higher risk of thromboembolism include:</p> <p>Pregnant women or women who have given birth in the past 6 weeks</p> <p>People receiving treatment with sex hormones</p> <p>People who have or have previously had cancer</p> <p>People receiving renal replacement therapy or extracorporeal membrane oxygenation</p> <p>People with clotting conditions or a history of venous thromboembolism</p> <p>People with obesity (BMI 30kg/m² or higher)</p>
Study types	<p>RCTs</p> <p>Cohort studies with a comparator group</p> <p>Systematic reviews of RCTs and/or cohort studies</p> <p>Depending on the volume of evidence identified, we may prioritise inclusion based on study design. We will prioritise inclusion of RCTs and systematic reviews of RCTs but if this study type is not available we will consider cohort studies with a comparator group and appropriate adjustment for confounding variables.</p>
Countries	Any
Timepoints	Any
Other exclusions	Studies without a comparator group

Equality issues	Religion or beliefs, people with a learning disability and disabled people.
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