PRISMA 2009 Checklist

SARS-CoV-2 RNA detected in blood samples from patients with COVID-19 is not associated with infectious virus

Section/topic	#	Checklist item	Reported
TITLE			
Title	1	Identify the report as a systematic review, meta-analysis, or both.	Yes; described as systematic review, and data presented as meta-analysis (Fig 2)
ABSTRACT			
Structured summary	2	Provide a structured summary including, as applicable: background; objectives; data sources; study eligibility criteria, participants, and interventions; study appraisal and synthesis methods; results; limitations; conclusions and implications of key findings; systematic review registration number.	Details provided as suggested, apart from no review registration number.
INTRODUCTION			
Rationale	3	Describe the rationale for the review in the context of what is already known.	Rationale provided
Objectives	4	Provide an explicit statement of questions being addressed with reference to participants, interventions, comparisons, outcomes, and study design (PICOS).	Provided in background and results sections

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METHODS			
Protocol and registration	5	Indicate if a review protocol exists, if and where it can be accessed (e.g., Web address), and, if available, provide registration information including registration number.	No review protocol for this study.
Eligibility criteria	6	Specify study characteristics (e.g., PICOS, length of follow-up) and report characteristics (e.g., years considered, language, publication status) used as criteria for eligibility, giving rationale.	Described in methods
Information sources	7	Describe all information sources (e.g., databases with dates of coverage, contact with study authors to identify additional studies) in the search and date last searched.	Described in methods
Search	8	Present full electronic search strategy for at least one database, including any limits used, such that it could be repeated.	Described in methods
Study selection	9	State the process for selecting studies (i.e., screening, eligibility, included in systematic review, and, if applicable, included in the meta-analysis).	Described in methods and flow diagram (Fig 1)
Data collection process	10	Describe method of data extraction from reports (e.g., piloted forms, independently, in duplicate) and any processes for obtaining and confirming data from investigators.	Described in methods
Data items	11	List and define all variables for which data were sought (e.g., PICOS, funding sources) and any assumptions and simplifications made.	Described in methods
Risk of bias in individual studies	12	Describe methods used for assessing risk of bias of individual studies (including specification of whether this was done at the study or outcome level), and how this information is to be used in any data synthesis.	Bias described in 'caveats and limitations' section in discussion
Summary measures	13	State the principal summary measures (e.g., risk ratio, difference in means).	Summary measures presented in Figure 2 (point prevalence from each study with confidence intervals, and pooled meta-analysis)
Synthesis of results	14	Describe the methods of handling data and combining results of studies, if done, including measures of consistency (e.g., I^2) for each meta-analysis.	I^2 presented in Figure 2
Risk of bias across studies	15	Specify any assessment of risk of bias that may affect the cumulative evidence (e.g., publication bias, selective reporting within studies).	Bias described in 'caveats and limitations' section in discussion
Additional analyses	16	Describe methods of additional analyses (e.g., sensitivity or subgroup analyses, meta-regression), if done, indicating which were pre-specified.	N/A

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RESULTS			
Study selection	17	Give numbers of studies screened, assessed for eligibility, and included in the review, with reasons for exclusions at each stage, ideally with a flow diagram.	Presented in methods and results sections, with supporting PRISMA flow diagram (Figure 1)
Study characteristics	18	For each study, present characteristics for which data were extracted (e.g., study size, PICOS, follow-up period) and provide the citations.	Data summarised in Table 1 with citations. Full metadata aer available as supplementary material (S1 table)
Risk of bias within studies	19	Present data on risk of bias of each study and, if available, any outcome level assessment (see item 12).	Risk of bias not presented for each individual study, but assessed for whole dataset.
Results of individual studies	20	For all outcomes considered (benefits or harms), present, for each study: (a) simple summary data for each intervention group (b) effect estimates and confidence intervals, ideally with a forest plot.	Results of individua; studies presented in Figure 2.
Synthesis of results	21	Present results of each meta-analysis done, including confidence intervals and measures of consistency.	Synthesis of results presented in Figure 2.
Risk of bias across studies	22	Present results of any assessment of risk of bias across studies (see Item 15).	See point 15.
Additional analysis	23	Give results of additional analyses, if done (e.g., sensitivity or subgroup analyses, meta-regression [see Item 16]).	N/A
DISCUSSION			
Summary of evidence	24	Summarize the main findings including the strength of evidence for each main outcome; consider their relevance to key groups (e.g., healthcare providers, users, and policy makers).	Main findings summarised in discussion.
Limitations	25	Discuss limitations at study and outcome level (e.g., risk of bias), and at review-level (e.g., incomplete retrieval of identified research, reporting bias).	Caveats and limitations presented.
Conclusions	26	Provide a general interpretation of the results in the context of other evidence, and implications for future research.	Conclusions of meta-analysis presented are discussed together with new data presented in parallel.
FUNDING			
Funding	27	Describe sources of funding for the systematic review and other support (e.g., supply of data); role of funders for the systematic review.	Funding sources are listed.

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