## **Supplementary Table 2. Search Strategy**

## 1. Medline (Ovid, 2002 to October 7, 2020) (n=400 results)

- 1 ("COVID19" or "COVID-19" or "coronavirus disease 2019" or "coronavirus disease-19" or "novel coronavirus" or "SARS-CoV-2" or "SARS2" or "2019-nCoV" or "2019 nCoV").mp. [mp=title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms]
- 2 ("glucocorticoid" or "corticosteroid" or "steroid" or "cortisone" or "hydrocortisone" or "prednisolone" or "methylprednisolone" or "prednisone" or "dexamethasone" or "triamcinolone").mp. [mp=title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms]
- 3 1 and 2 [refine publication year between 2019 and 2020]
- 4. ("SARS" or "Severe acute respiratory syndrome").mp. [mp=title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms]
- 5. 4 and 2 [refine publication year between 2002 and 2020]

6. 3 or 5

# 2. Embase (Ovid, 2002 to October 7, 2020) (n=3031 results)

- 1 ("COVID19" or "COVID-19" or "coronavirus disease 2019" or "coronavirus disease-19" or "novel coronavirus" or "SARS-CoV-2" or "SARS2" or "2019-nCoV" or "2019 nCoV").mp. [mp=title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms]
- 2 ("glucocorticoid" or "corticosteroid" or "steroid" or "cortisone" or "hydrocortisone" or "prednisolone" or "methylprednisolone" or "prednisone" or "dexamethasone" or "triamcinolone").mp. [mp=title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms]
- 3 1 and 2 [refine publication year between 2019 and 2020]
- 4. ("SARS" or "Severe acute respiratory syndrome").mp. [mp=title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms]
- 5. 4 and 2 [refine publication year between 2002 and 2020]

6. 3 or 5

#### 3. EBSCO (H.W. Wilson: OmniFile Full-Text Mega, 2002 to October 7, 2020) (n=470 results)

S1 TX "COVID19" OR TX "COVID-19" OR TX "coronavirus disease 2019" OR TX "coronavirus disease-19" OR TX "novel coronavirus" OR TX "SARS-CoV-2" OR TX "SARS2" OR TX "2019-nCoV" OR TX "2019 nCoV" [Search modes: Boolean/Phrase] [Expanders: Apply related words & Also search within the full text of the articles & Apply equivalent subjects]

S2 TX "glucocorticoid" OR TX "corticosteroid" OR TX "steroid" OR TX "cortisone" OR TX "hydrocortisone" OR TX "prednisolone" OR TX "methylprednisolone" OR TX "prednisone" OR TX "dexamethasone" OR TX "triamcinolone" [Search modes: Boolean/Phrase] [Expanders: Apply related words & Also search within the full text of the articles & Apply equivalent subjects]

S3 S2 AND S1

S4. TX "SARS" OR TX "Severe acute respiratory syndrome" [Search modes: Boolean/Phrase] [Expanders: Apply related words & Also search within the full text of the articles & Apply equivalent subjects]

S5 S4 AND S2

S6 S5 OR S3 [refine publication date between Jan 2002 and Dec 2020]

- 4. ScienceDirect (2002 to October 7, 2020) (n=767 results)
- 1. COVID AND ("glucocorticoid" OR "corticosteroid" OR "steroid" OR "cortisone" OR "hydrocortisone" OR "prednisolone" OR "methylprednisolone" OR "prednisone") [title, abstract or author-specified keywords]
- 2. refine 1 by years: 2019-2020
- 3. COVID AND ("dexamethasone" OR "triamcinolone") [title, abstract or author-specified keywords]
- 4. refine 3 by years: 2019-2020
- 5. coronavirus AND ("glucocorticoid" OR "corticosteroid" OR "steroid" OR "cortisone" OR "hydrocortisone" OR "prednisolone" OR "methylprednisolone" OR "prednisone") [title, abstract or author-specified keywords]
- 6. refine 5 by years: 2019-2020
- 7. coronavirus AND ("dexamethasone" OR "triamcinolone") [title, abstract or author-specified keywords]
- 8. refine 7 by years: 2019-2020
- 9. SARS-CoV AND ("glucocorticoid" OR "corticosteroid" OR "steroid" OR "cortisone" OR "hydrocortisone" OR "prednisolone" OR "methylprednisolone" OR "prednisone") [title, abstract or author-specified keywords]
- 10. refine 9 by years: 2019-2020
- 11. SARS-CoV AND ("dexamethasone" OR "triamcinolone") [title, abstract or author-specified keywords]
- 12. refine 11 by years: 2019-2020
- 13. SARS2 AND ("glucocorticoid" OR "corticosteroid" OR "steroid" OR "cortisone" OR "hydrocortisone" OR "prednisolone" OR "methylprednisolone" OR "prednisone") [title, abstract or author-specified keywords]
- 14. refine 13 by years: 2019-2020
- 15. SARS2 AND ("dexamethasone" OR "triamcinolone") [title, abstract or author-specified keywords]
- 16. refine 15 by years: 2019-2020
- 17. nCoV AND ("glucocorticoid" OR "corticosteroid" OR "steroid" OR "cortisone" OR "hydrocortisone" OR "prednisolone" OR "methylprednisolone" OR "prednisone") [title, abstract or author-specified keywords]

18. refine 17 by years: 2019-2020

19. nCoV AND ("dexamethasone" OR "triamcinolone") [title, abstract or author-specified keywords]

20. refine 19 by years: 2019-2020

- 21. "SARS" AND ("glucocorticoid" OR "corticosteroid" OR "steroid" OR "cortisone" OR "hydrocortisone" OR "prednisolone" OR "methylprednisolone" OR "prednisone") [title, abstract or author-specified keywords]
- 22. refine 21 by years: 2002-2020
- 23. "SARS" AND ("dexamethasone" OR "triamcinolone") [title, abstract or author-specified keywords]
- 24. refine 23 by years: 2002-2020
- 25. "Severe acute respiratory syndrome" AND ("glucocorticoid" OR "corticosteroid" OR "steroid" OR "cortisone" OR "hydrocortisone" OR "prednisolone" OR "methylprednisolone" OR "prednisone") [title, abstract or author-specified keywords]

26. refine 25 by years: 2002-2020

27. "Severe acute respiratory syndrome" AND ("dexamethasone" OR "triamcinolone") [title, abstract or author-specified keywords]

28. refine 26 by years: 2002-2020

### 5. Web of Science (All database, 2002 to October 7, 2020) (n=902 results)

#1 TS= ("COVID19" OR "COVID-19" OR "coronavirus disease 2019" OR "coronavirus disease-19" OR "novel coronavirus" OR "SARS-CoV-2" OR "SARS2" OR "2019-nCoV" OR "2019 nCoV") [Timespan= 2002-2020; Search language= Auto]

#2 TS= ("glucocorticoid" OR "corticosteroid" OR "steroid" OR "cortisone" OR "hydrocortisone" OR "prednisolone" OR "methylprednisolone" OR "prednisone" OR "dexamethasone" OR "triamcinolone") [Timespan= 2002-2020; Search language= Auto]

#3 #2 AND #1 [Databases= WOS, DIIDW, INSPEC, KJD, MEDLINE, RSCI, SCIELO; Timespan= 2002-2020; Search language= Auto]

#4 TS=("SARS" OR "Severe acute respiratory syndrome") [Timespan= 2002-2020; Search language= Auto]

#5 #4 AND #2 [Timespan= 2002-2020; Search language= Auto]

#6 #5 OR #3 [Timespan= 2002-2020; Search language= Auto]

#### 6. Cochrane Library (2002 to October 7, 2020) (n=85 results)

#1 "COVID19" OR "COVID-19" OR "coronavirus disease 2019" OR "coronavirus disease-19" OR "novel coronavirus" OR "SARS-CoV-2" OR "SARS2" OR "2019-nCoV" OR "2019 nCoV" [in Title Abstract Keyword - (Word variations have been searched)]

#2 "glucocorticoid" OR "corticosteroid" OR "steroid" OR "cortisone" OR "hydrocortisone" OR "prednisolone" OR "methylprednisolone" OR "prednisone" OR "dexamethasone" OR "triamcinolone" [in Title Abstract Keyword - (Word variations have been searched)]

#3 #2 AND #1

#4 "SARS" OR "Severe acute respiratory syndrome" [in Title Abstract Keyword - (Word variations have been searched)]
#5 #4 AND #2

#6 #5 OR #3

#7 refine #6 to Cochrane Library publication date between Jan 2002 and Dec 2020

## 7. ClinicalTrials.gov (Commence to October 7, 2020) (n=96 results)

"COVID19" OR "COVID-19" OR "coronavirus disease 2019" OR "coronavirus disease-19" OR "novel coronavirus" OR "SARS-CoV-2" OR "SARS2" OR "2019-nCoV" OR "2019 nCoV" | "glucocorticoid" OR "corticosteroid" OR "steroid" OR "cortisone" OR "hydrocortisone" OR "prednisolone" OR "methylprednisolone" OR "prednisone" OR "dexamethasone" OR "triamcinolone"