Table 1. GRADE Evidence Profile: In patients hospitalized with severe or critical COVID-19 receiving systemic glucocorticoids, should abatacept compared to no abatacept be added to standard care?

Certainty assessment							№ of patients		Effect		Certainty	Importance
№ of studies	Study design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	abatacept	no abatacept	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)		
Mortality (follow-up: 28 days)												
1 [O'Halloran 2023]	randomized trials	not serious	not serious	not serious[i]	very serious[a,b]	none	56/509 (11%)	77/510 (15.1%)	**RR 0.73** (0.53 to 1.01)[c]	**41 fewer per 1,000** (from 71 fewer to 2 more)	⨁⨁◯◯ Low[a,b]	CRITICAL
Recovery (follow-up: 28 days; assessed with: first day a hospitalized participant did not require oxygen or on-going care or patient was not hospitalized with or without limitations on activities)[d]												
1 [O'Halloran 2023]	randomized trials	not serious	not serious	not serious[i]	serious[e]	none	414/524 (79.0%)	397/525 (75.6%)	**HR 1.12** (0.98 to 1.28)[f]	**38 more per 1,000** (from 7 fewer to 80 more)	⨁⨁⨁◯ Moderate[e]	CRITICAL
Serious adverse events (assessed with: death, life-threatening AE, new/prolonged hospitalization, persistent/significant incapacity/substantial disruption of normal life functions, congenital anomaly/birth defect)												
1 [O'Halloran 2023]	randomized trials	not serious	not serious	not serious[i]	very serious[g]	none	128/509 (25.1%)	136/510 (26.7%)	**RR 0.94** (0.77 to 1.16)[h]	**16 fewer per 1,000** (from 61 fewer to 43 more)	⨁⨁◯◯ Low[g]	CRITICAL

CI: confidence interval; **HR**: hazard ratio; **RR:** risk ratio

Explanations

a. 95% CI cannot exclude the potential for no mortality benefits.
b. Events do not meet optimal information size and suggests fragility in the estimate.
c. OR in O'Halloran was 0.62 (0.41-0.94). Analyzed as binary endpoints using a logistic regression model with an indicator variable for treatment group, geographic region, baseline disease severity on the 8-point ordinal scale, age, and sex
d. Equivalent to categories 6, 7, or 8 on the study's 8-point ordinal scale.
e. 95% CI cannot exclude no meaningful difference in recovery.

f. Recovery rate ratio (RRR), similar to a hazard ratio.
g. 95% CI cannot exclude the potential for harms for total SAEs or SAEs related to abatacept.
h. All SAEs reported. SAEs reported by site PIs as related to the study drug: abatacept = 9/509, placebo = 7/510 (RR=1.29; 95% CI: 0.48, 3.43).
i. O'Halloran included patients 18 years or older