

# TOPICS AND QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE TASKFORCE

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Feedback to date has included both a wide range of suggestions for questions and topics for inclusion, as well as advice on issues that are outside the scope of the guideline. These are described below.

Newly suggested topics and clinical questions for consideration	Suggested topics and clinical questions already being considered	Newly suggested topics and clinical questions that are out of scope
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the reported discrepancy in accuracy for pulse oximetry for people with darker skin clinically important and should there be different oxygen saturation thresholds for intervention in these groups?</li> <li>Diagnosis and management of COVID-19-associated and/or post-COVID-19 vasculitis</li> <li>Suggested Topic: Covid-19 Care for Severely Disabled In Home Setting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of early anakinra at high risk of cytokine storm</li> <li></li> </ul>	<p><i>Please refer to the <a href="#">Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI)</a> for all vaccine advice.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Symptomatic management in the community- headache, cough, diarrhoea</li> </ul>
Topics that are already prioritised and are included in the living guideline and/or flowcharts, or are under review by the team	Topics that are deprioritised at the moment but can be reviewed again	Cumulative list of suggested topics that are currently out of scope
<p><b>Guideline</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Definition of disease severity</li> <li>Disease monitoring and markers of clinical deterioration</li> <li>Disease-modifying treatments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Antiandrogens</li> <li>Antieoplastics</li> <li>Antiparasitic, antifungals and other anti-infective agents</li> <li>Antihypertensives</li> <li>Antithrombotic, antiplatelets and related therapies</li> <li>Human and blood derived products</li> <li>Immunomodulating drugs</li> <li>Interferons</li> <li>Other antibody related therapies</li> <li>Other therapies</li> <li>Vitamins, supplements and cofactors</li> </ul> </li> <li>Chemoprophylaxis</li> <li>Respiratory support in adults <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CPAP/HFNO</li> <li>Non-invasive ventilation</li> <li>Intubation</li> <li>Videolaryngoscopy</li> <li>Neuromuscular blockers</li> <li>Positive end-expiratory pressure</li> <li>Prone positioning</li> <li>Recruitment manoeuvres</li> <li>ECMO</li> </ul> </li> <li>Respiratory support in neonates, children and adolescents</li> <li>Venous thromboembolism (VTE) prophylaxis</li> <li>Therapies for existing indications in patients with COVID-19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ACE-I/ARBs</li> <li>ACEIs in postpartum women</li> <li>Steroids for people with asthma or COPD</li> <li>Oestrogen-containing therapies</li> </ul> </li> <li>Timing of surgery following COVID-19 infection</li> <li>Pregnancy and perinatal care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Antenatal corticosteroids</li> <li>Magnesium sulfate</li> <li>Mode of birth</li> <li>Delayed umbilical cord clamping</li> <li>Skin-to-skin</li> <li>Breastfeeding</li> <li>Rooming in</li> </ul> </li> <li>Child and adolescent care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paediatric Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Flowchart</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cardiac arrest protocols</li> <li>Stroke protocols</li> <li>GP triage</li> <li>Nitric oxide</li> <li>Tracheostomy</li> <li>Low tidal volumes</li> <li>Pulse oximetry</li> <li>Older people living with frailty and/or cognitive impairment</li> <li>People receiving palliative care</li> </ul> <p><b>In the process of scoping and/or development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What long-term symptoms are reported in patients with COVID-19?</li> <li>Rehabilitation and post-discharge follow-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ICS/LAMA/LABA post recovery of severe COVID</li> <li>Parameters for long-term follow-up</li> </ul> </li> <li>Predictive testing for disease severity</li> <li>Should the use of increased prophylactic doses of anticoagulants for prevention of VTE still be considered for critically ill patients?</li> <li>Clinical guidance and parameters for early discharge of COVID patients into home care with remote monitoring and oxygen if needed</li> <li>Remote monitoring guidelines (hospital in the home)</li> <li>Guidance for patients diagnosed with COVID and managed in the community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Echocardiography</li> <li>Fluid management</li> <li>Medication management, including over the counter medicines and psychotropics</li> <li>Ambulance management and transport</li> <li>Nutrition care</li> <li>Sedation protocols</li> <li>Complementary, holistic and integrative medicine, including lifestyle interventions</li> <li>Aspirin as chemoprophylaxis</li> <li>Does open surgical tracheotomy compared to percutaneous tracheostomy reduce the risk of transmission?</li> <li>Retrieval (specifically in rural, remote regions)</li> <li>Treatment of anosmia, secondary to COVID-19</li> <li>Will the Taskforce mention transient desaturation, exertional desaturation?</li> <li>Pregnancy and perinatal health-specific questions (note the Pregnancy Panel will review this list regularly) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased risk of postpartum deterioration</li> <li>Presence of support person at birth</li> <li>Management of hypertensive disorders of pregnancy</li> <li>Use of antenatal ultrasound</li> <li>Use of antenatal corticosteroids for preterm birth</li> <li>Target oxygen saturation for women with moderate/severe disease</li> <li>Nitrous oxide for pain relief</li> <li>Water birth / immersion</li> <li>Kangaroo mother care</li> <li>Mucolytics</li> <li>Use of early birth for women with moderate/severe disease</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Care in the age of COVID-19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dose of rocuronium when conducting rapid sequence intubation</li> <li>Side-effects of COVID-19 treatment</li> <li>Pelvic floor prolapse secondary to a COVID-19 infection</li> <li>Prehospital (paramedic) care for suspected COVID-19 patients</li> <li>Sexual health in the age of COVID-19</li> <li>Standardised guidelines of the postoperative febrile patient in the COVID era</li> <li>Cardio-oncology patients in the era of COVID-19</li> <li>Spirometry during COVID</li> </ul> </li> <li>Infection, prevention and control clinical questions</li> <li>Diagnostic testing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Auscultation</li> <li>Lung ultrasound vs chest x-ray to triage patients</li> <li>CT scanning to stratify risk for surgery</li> <li>Population testing criteria</li> <li>Saliva testing as a diagnostic method</li> </ul> </li> <li>Organisation of care/ Health services research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Management in residential aged care facilities, specifically keeping a resident in facility versus transfer to hospital</li> <li>Rostering for healthcare workers</li> <li>Patient information</li> <li>Assessing community spread</li> <li>Patient handover</li> <li>Testing of all residents in a residential aged care facility where a positive is confirmed</li> <li>The impact of restrictions on children's therapy services</li> <li>Effect of social distancing measures on the provision and availability of volunteer support services</li> <li>Surgery triage</li> </ul> </li> <li>Mental health care</li> <li>Natural history of COVID-19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COVID-19 &amp; Parkinson's Disease (risk of Parkinson's post COVID-19)</li> <li>Presence of swine flu (H1N1 influenza) antibodies</li> <li>Presentation of chilblains</li> </ul> </li> <li>Remote monitoring of patients at home and criteria for admission</li> <li>Virus clearance and immunity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Serological testing for antibodies</li> </ul> </li> <li>Defining at-risk populations</li> <li>Does the flu vaccination increase the risk and severity of a cytokine storm in COVID-19 infections?</li> <li>Roles and responsibilities of healthcare workers</li> <li>Stopping immunotherapy in patients with cancer and COVID-19</li> <li>All vaccine-related clinical questions</li> <li>Impact of pandemic on the LGBTIQ+ community</li> <li>Access to bamlanivumab</li> <li>Requirement for test after completing 14 days quarantine following initial positive COVID-19 test</li> <li>Steroids for those on home oxygen and ivermectin</li> <li>Can a model hybrid IPV/cough assist device (Pegaso) be used the same as other open circuit respiratory devices? Can the cough assist mode be used?</li> <li>Can Australia purchase or produce locally Monoclonal Antibodies to be used very early in the SARS -2 -CoV -19 or post or pre exposure by intravenous or subcutaneous administration?</li> <li>Vitamin D to protect against COVID-19 including optimal levels and deficiencies</li> <li>COVID testing for symptomatic fully vaccinated patients</li> <li>Preventative care guidelines particularly guidance on the individual vaccines and the preparations to take vaccines</li> <li>Clinical minimization of airborne transmission risk through environmental controls, ventilation, filtration and air cleaning</li> <li>Use of Virgin Coconut Oil for reduction of COVID transmission, severity and hospitalisations</li> <li>Is there material or laboratory proof that the COVID-19 virus exists and has it ever been isolated in the lab</li> <li>Is graphene (or any other electrical conducting matter) contained within any vaccine being used in Australia</li> <li>Evidence for and against using HEPA filters in enclosed clinic rooms. In particular, in cardiac exercise stress test rooms</li> <li>Should the use of increased prophylactic doses of anticoagulants for prevention of VTE still be considered for critically ill patients?</li> <li>Clinical guidance and parameters for early discharge of COVID patients into home care with remote monitoring and oxygen if needed</li> <li>Remote monitoring guidelines (hospital in the home)</li> <li>CTPA in emergency departments for pts with COVID</li> <li>Guidance and fact sheets for patients diagnosed with COVID and managed in the community</li> <li>Covid clinic for people who were not hospitalised for covid but have long-covid.</li> </ul>
Population groups that are already prioritised and are included in the living guideline and/or flowcharts, or are under review	Patient groups that are already prioritised but are pending action	Suggested patient groups that are not yet considered (or may be out of scope)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People with mild COVID-19 disease</li> <li>People with moderate-severe COVID-19 disease</li> <li>People with critical COVID-19 disease</li> <li>Children or adolescents</li> <li>Pregnant women and women who have recently given birth</li> <li>People living in rural or remote Australia</li> <li>Older people and people receiving palliative care</li> <li>Health care workers</li> <li>People with comorbidities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>asthma/COPD</li> <li>diabetes</li> <li>cardiovascular disease</li> <li>cancer/immunosuppressed</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>None</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patients receiving dialysis</li> <li>Psychiatric/mental illness</li> <li>Patients with delirium</li> <li>People with disabilities and their carers</li> <li>Multiple co-morbidities</li> <li>People with asymptomatic infection</li> <li>People with possible infection, separate to those with confirmed infection</li> <li>Bereaving family members</li> <li>People with haematological disorders</li> </ul>