

**Appendix 1: Search strategy**

No	Terms/keywords
<b>Medline</b>	
1	Coronavirus/ or Coronavirus Infections/ or COVID-19.mp
2	coronavirus.mp
3	SARS-CoV-2.mp
4	n-CoV.mp
5	2019-nCoV.mp
6	1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5
7	Africa.mp. or exp Africa/
8	6 and 7
9	limit 15 to (English language and humans and year="2019 - 2020")
<b>PubMed</b>	
1	"COVID-19" OR coronavirus OR "SARS-CoV-2" OR "n-CoV" OR "2019-nCoV"
2	Africa*
3	((("COVID-19" OR coronavirus OR "SARS-CoV-2" OR "n-CoV" OR "2019-nCoV")) AND (Africa))
4	((("COVID-19" OR coronavirus OR "SARS-CoV-2" OR "n-CoV" OR "2019-nCoV")) AND (Africa) Sort by: Best Match Filters: Publication date from 2019/12/01; Humans; English
<b>Scopus</b>	(TITLE-ABS-KEY ( "COVID-19" OR coronavirus OR "SARS-CoV-2" OR "n-CoV" OR "2019-nCoV")) AND ( TITLE-ABS-KEY (africa) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR , 2020 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR , 2019 ) )

\*list of countries was considered

## Appendix 2: JBI quality appraisal and selection tool

### JBI Critical Appraisal Checklist for Descriptive / Case Series

Reviewer ..... Date .....

Author ..... Year ..... Record Number .....

	Yes	No	Unclear	Not Applicable
1. Was study based on a random or pseudo-random sample?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Were the criteria for inclusion in the sample clearly defined?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Were confounding factors identified and strategies to deal with them stated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Were outcomes assessed using objective criteria?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. If comparisons are being made, was there sufficient descriptions of the groups?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Was follow up carried out over a sufficient time period?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Were the outcomes of people who withdrew described and included in the analysis?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Were outcomes measured in a reliable way?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Was appropriate statistical analysis used?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Overall appraisal:      Include                   Exclude                   Seek further info

Comments (Including reason for exclusion)

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**Appendix 3: JBI data extraction tool****JBI Data Extraction Form for  
Experimental / Observational Studies**

Reviewer ..... Date .....

Author ..... Year .....

Journal ..... Record Number .....

**Study Method**RCT  Quasi-RCT  Longitudinal Retrospective  Observational  Other **Participants**Setting  
\_\_\_\_\_Population  
\_\_\_\_\_**Sample size**

Group A \_\_\_\_\_ Group B \_\_\_\_\_

**Interventions**Intervention A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_Intervention B  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_Authors Conclusions:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_Reviewers Conclusions:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Appendix 4: Assessment of methodological quality (n=15)

Authors, year	<i>Cross-sectional studies</i>									
	Was study based on a random or pseudo-random sample?	Were the criteria for inclusion in the sample clearly defined?	Were confounding factors identified and strategies to deal with them stated?	Were outcomes assessed using objective criteria?	If comparisons are being made, was there sufficient comparison of groups?	Was the follow-up carried out over a sufficient period?	Were the outcomes of people who withdrew described and included in the analysis?	Were outcomes measured in reliable way?	Was appropriate statistical analysis used?	%
Bergman et al (2020) <sup>18</sup>	N	NA	Y	Y	NA	Y	NA	U	Y	80
Clark et al (2020) <sup>19</sup>	NA	Y	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	Y	Y	100
Daon et al(2020) <sup>20</sup>	NA	Y	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	Y	Y	100
Davies et al (2020) <sup>7</sup>	NA	Y	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	Y	Y	100
Diop et al (2020) <sup>21</sup>	NA	Y	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	Y	Y	100
Hossain et al (2020) <sup>23</sup>	N	Y	U	Y	Y	N	NA	Y	Y	72
Jaffé et al (2020) <sup>24</sup>	N	Y	U	Y	Y	N	NA	Y	Y	72
Kubota <i>et al</i> (2020) <sup>25</sup>	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	NA	Y	Y	86
Maitra et al (2020) <sup>26</sup>	N	Y	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	Y	Y	83
Gayawan et al (2020) <sup>22</sup>	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N/A	N/A	Y	Y	80%
Maraghi et al. (2020) <sup>27</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	NA	NA	No	Yes	85.7
Muneer <i>et al</i> (2020) <sup>28</sup>	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	NA	NA	Y	Y	86
Okpokoro et al (2020) <sup>8</sup>	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	NA	NA	Y	Y	86
Onovo et al (2020) <sup>9</sup>	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NA	NA	Y	Y	100
Ortiz-Fernández et al (2020) <sup>29</sup>	Y	Y	N	Y	N	NA	NA	Y	Y	72

Y=Yes; N= No; U= Unclear; NA= Not applicable; %= Percentage of score