

Reconciliation of results and studies included

	Current (June, 2018) (Source: First figure online*)	Rygård, May 2018 (Source: Figure 3) PMID 29761216	Gibbison, 2017 PMID: 28351429	Volbeda, 2015 (Source: Figure 2) PMID 26100123	Annane (Cochrane), 2015 (Source: Analysis 1.5) PMID 26633262
Outcome(s)					
Efficacy: mortality	RR 0.90 (95% CI 0.81 to 0.99) ↓	RR 0.98 (95% CI 0.89 to 1.08) ↔	No significant reduction in mortality. ↔	RR 0.89 (95% CI 0.74–1.08) ↔	RR 0.88 (95% CI 0.78 to 0.87) ↔
Heterogeneity	0% (95% CI 0% to 59%)	0% (CI not provided)	Network meta-analysis	0% (CI not provided)	42% (CI not provided)
Summary of important differences or findings	Restricted to low-dose steroids for 7 days or less for septic shock requiring vasopressors	Any dose or duration of steroids.	Any dose or duration of steroids.	Any dose or duration of steroids.	Low-dose steroids. Used a fixed-effects model.
Studies included					
Cooperative Study Group (CSG), 1963 DOI: link	No (Did not use low-dose corticosteroids)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Schumer, 1976 PMID 786190	No (Did not use low-dose corticosteroids)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sprung, 1984 PMID 6384785	No (Did not use low-dose corticosteroids)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bone, 1987 PMID 3306374	No (Did not use low-dose corticosteroids)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Veterans Administration Systemic Sepsis Cooperative Study Group (VASSCSG), 1987	No (Did not use low-dose corticosteroids)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

PMID 2888017					
Luce, 1988 PMID 3202402	No (Did not use low-dose corticosteroids)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bollaert, 1999 PMID 9559600	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Briegel, 1999 PMID 10321661	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Chawla, 1999 PMID NA. Data from Cochrane, 2015 Link	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Annane (Ger-Inf-05), 2002 PMID 12186604	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yildz, 2002 PMID 12133187	No (most patients did not have septic shock)	No	Yes	No	No
Confalonieri, 2005 PMID 15557131	No (most patients did not have sepsis or septic shock)	No	No	Yes	Yes
Oppert, 2005 PMID 16276166	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tandam, 2005 PMID NA. Data from Cochrane, 2015	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Rinaldi, 2006 PMID 16850006	No (patients did not have septic shock)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cicarelli, 2007 PMID 17992396	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/No (Included in analysis 1.4 but not in 1.5)
Kurugundla, 2008	No (did not use low-dose corticosteroids)	Yes	No	No	No

Sprung (CORTICUS), 2008 PMID 18184957	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hu, 2009 PMID 19751560. Data from Cochrane, 2015	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Meduri, 2009 PMID 17426195	No (most patients did not septic shock)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Snijders, 2010 PMID 20133929	No (most patients did not septic shock)	No	Yes	No (see footnote in their Table 2)	Yes
Arabi, 2010 PMID 21059778	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Meijvis, 2011 PMID 21636122	No (most patients did not septic shock)	No	Yes	No	Yes
Sabry, 2011	No (most patients did not septic shock)	No	Yes	No	Yes
Yildiz, 2011 PMID 22973341	No (most patients did not septic shock)	No	Yes	No	No
Liu, 2012 PMID 23158856	No (most patients did not septic shock)	No	Yes	No	Yes
Gordon, 2014 PMID 24557425	Yes (excluded from short duration subgroup)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mirea, 2014 PMC4068893	Yes †	Yes	No	No	No
Rezk, 2014 PMID NA	No (most patients did not septic shock)	No	No	No	NO
Torres, 2014	No (most patients did not septic shock)	Yes	No	No	Yes
Gordon (VANISH), 2016 PMID 27483065	Yes † (excluded from short duration subgroup)	Yes	No	NA	NA
Tongyoo, 2016	Yes	Yes	No	NA	NA

PMID 27741949					
Key (HYPRESS), 2016 PMID 27695824	No (patients did not have septic shock)	No	No	NA	NA
Lv, 2017 PMID 28615145	Yes	Yes	No	NA	NA
Ventatesh (ADRENAL), 2018 PMID 29347874	Yes	Yes	NA	NA	NA
Annane (APROCCHSS), 2018 PMID 29490185	Yes	Yes	NA	NA	NA
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Notes:

* <http://openmetaanalysis.github.io/sepsis-steroids>

† The current review, when published 06/2018, did not identify the VANISH study in title screening and was not aware of the mortality data obtained by the Rygård review and published in 05/2021 between closing and publishing our review in 06/2018. These two trials and this footnote were added 07/2021.