

Supplement 7. Studies reporting no adverse events

Study	Condition	Comparisons - main	Study design	Study sample	AE reporting
Alansari 2013	bronchiolitis	systemic vs. placebo	RCT	200	No AE overall; 7 days follow-up revealed no side effect concerns in treatment groups.
Brunette 1988	asthma, before signs of wheeze	systemic vs. systemic	nRCT	32	No AE overall; Growth and weight gains for all children were within normal range.
Chen 2008	asthma	systemic vs. inhaled vs. inhaled	RCT, 3-arm	123	No AE overall; All 3 groups reported no adverse effects.
Chub-Uppakarn 2007	croup	systemic vs. systemic	RCT	41	No AE overall; No significant adverse reaction from dexamethasone treatment in either group.
Escobedo Chavez 1992	asthma	systemic vs. non-corticosteroid	RCT	50	No AE overall; We detected no side effects from the use of methylprednisolone in a single dose.
Fifoot 2007	croup	systemic vs. systemic vs. systemic	RCT, 3-arm	99	No AE overall; One patient in each group vomited their first dose of medication; all except one (dexamethasone 0.6mg/kg) tolerated their repeat dose; no patient suffered any adverse outcomes from receiving study steroid, either at index presentation or during the follow-up period.

Ghirga 2002	wheeze - recurrent, early in URTI	inhaled vs. no intervention	RCT	26	No AE overall; No apparent adverse effects reported 4 years post-study.
Husby 1993	croup	inhaled vs. placebo	RCT	36	No AE overall; No side effects were reported.
Jartti 2006	wheeze - acute	systemic vs. placebo	RCT	78	No AE overall; Prednisolone treatment well tolerated; no clinically significant adverse effects occurred.
Jartti 2007	wheeze - recurrent	systemic vs. placebo	RCT	58	No AE overall; Prednisolone treatment well tolerated; no clinically significant adverse effects occurred.
Klassen 1994	croup	inhaled vs. placebo	RCT	54	One patient in placebo group had a burning sensation on the face. No adverse events noted in budesonide group.
Langton Hewer 1998	asthma	systemic vs. systemic vs. systemic	RCT, 3-arm	98	No AE overall; No side effect possibly attributable to prednisolone therapy was noted in any of the three treatment groups.
Leipzig 1979	croup	systemic vs. placebo	RCT	30	No AE overall; Observed no adverse effects or late relapses.
Razi 2015	asthma	inhaled vs. placebo	RCT	100	No AE overall; No drug-related adverse effects were identified during hospitalization.
Roorda 1998	croup	inhaled vs. placebo	RCT	17	No AE overall; No side effects of treatment regimens were reported.

Saito 2017	asthma	systemic vs. inhaled	RCT	50	No AE overall; Adverse events did not occur in either group; Serum cortisol levels on the 4th day of hospitalization were 17.0mcg/dL and 10.9mcg/dL with significant suppression in the prednisolone group.
Schuh 2009	asthma	systemic vs. non-corticosteroid	RCT	130	No AE overall; No adverse effects developed in children given prednisolone after discharge.
Sparrow 2006	croup	systemic vs. systemic	RCT	133	No AE overall; No adverse events in either group.
Storr 1987	asthma	systemic vs. placebo	RCT	140	No AE overall; There were no observed side effects related to the single prednisolone dose.
Sung 1998	asthma	inhaled vs. placebo	RCT	44	No AE overall; No adverse effects in either group.
Super 1989	croup	systemic vs. placebo	RCT	33	No AE overall; Did not encounter any side effects directly attributable to dexamethasone.
Tal 1983	wheeze - acute	systemic + sal; systemic + placebo; sal + placebo; placebo	RCT, 2x2	32	No AE overall; No other side effects or complications were documented, aside from tremor (1 infant) as side effect of salbutamol.
Tamura 2008	refractory pneumonia (5 year old)	systemic	CS (#1)	1	No AE overall; No adverse events in any patients during steroid treatment.

van Woensel 1997	bronchiolitis	systemic vs. placebo	RCT	54	No AE overall; No clinically significant side effects of prednisolone were found.
Webb 1986	wheeze	systemic vs. placebo	RCT	38	No AE overall; No side effects reported by parents and none detected on clinical exam 3 days after completing 5-day treatment course.
Zhang 2003	bronchiolitis	systemic vs. standard care	RCT	52	No AE overall; Potential side-effects of prednisolone not included as outcome measures in this study as short-term steroid therapy has been well confirmed. At time of analysis, no adverse events were noted in patients who received prednisolone.

AE: adverse events; CS: case series; nRCT: non-randomised controlled trial; RCT: randomised controlled trial; sal: salbutamol; URTI: upper respiratory tract infection; vs: versus