

# A Systematic Literature Review Evaluating Real-World Use of Nirmatrelvir-Ritonavir for the Prevention of COVID-19-Related Hospitalization and Death

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Breakthroughs that change patients' lives

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## Introduction

- Nirmatrelvir-ritonavir (NMV/r) is an oral antiviral used for the treatment of mild-to-moderate COVID-19 within 5 days of symptom onset in patients aged ≥12 years at high risk of progression to severe disease, including hospitalization and death
- The Evaluation of Protease Inhibition for COVID-19 In High-Risk Patients (EPIC-HR) trial demonstrated that NMV/r significantly reduced the risk of COVID-19 related hospitalization or death from any cause in unvaccinated patients treated within 5 days of symptom onset by 86% compared to placebo
- Following real-world utilization beginning in late 2021, millions of patients worldwide have been treated with NMV/r and many studies have described outcomes following treatment
- This systematic literature review (SLR) summarized the real-world effectiveness of NMV/r against hospitalization and mortality (separately, and composite), stratified by age, vaccination status, and underlying high-risk condition

## Methods

- An SLR was conducted in accordance with the Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Review of Interventions (CHSRI) guidelines<sup>1</sup> and Preferring Reporting Items for Systematic reviews and Meta-Analysis (PRISMA)<sup>2</sup>
- Real-world studies of NMV/r use available in English, with sample size ≥5, and reporting on hospitalization and/or mortality outcomes were identified from Embase and PubMed
- Studies were evaluated for eligibility using population, intervention, comparison, outcome, study design (PICOS) criteria; when summarizing the findings for this presentation, the PICOS criteria were refreshed to include the most recent data (Dec 22, 2021 - Mar 31, 2023) (Table 1), supplemented by a review of grey literature from conference proceedings from Dec 1, 2021-Dec 31, 2022
- Dual-independent screening was used at the title, abstract and full-text review stages with third reviewer consensus; data were extracted by a single reviewer with validation by a second reviewer prior to a risk-of-bias assessment
- Differences in treatment effect were reported as adjusted odds ratios (aOR), adjusted hazard ratios (aHR), and adjusted risk ratios (aRR) with corresponding 95% confidence intervals (CIs) as reported in the studies were converted to effectiveness by subtracting the ratio from 1 and multiplying by 100. No statistical analysis was conducted across the studies

## Results

### Study characteristics (Figure 1)

- Of 66 studies that represented 421,588 patients that received NMV/r, 14 studies reported on effectiveness (i.e., relative risk reduction) for at least one outcome of interest and were included in this SLR
- Of the 14 studies, 8 studies reported that Omicron was predominant during the study; 6 studies reported predominance by Omicron sublineage (BA.1/BA.2 and BA.4/BA.5)
- One study (Lewnard et al.) evaluated NMV/r effectiveness when received within 5 days of symptom onset (in alignment with EPIC-HR and the product label; Figure 3)
- NMV/r effectiveness against hospitalization**
  - Studies that measured all-cause hospitalization (n=8) reported effectiveness (percent reduction in odds/risk ratio) ranging from 21% to 89% (NMV/r vs. no NMV/r, Figure 2A)
  - When considering COVID-19-related hospitalization, all studies (n=3) favored NMV/r treatment with effectiveness of 24%-60%. Treatment benefit of NMV/r was consistent regardless of age, vaccination status, and underlying high-risk conditions
- NMV/r effectiveness against mortality**
  - Five studies reported on effectiveness of NMV/r vs no NMV/r for all-cause mortality, with effectiveness (percent reduction in odds/risk ratio) ranging from 39%-85% (Figure 2B)
- NMV/r effectiveness against the composite endpoint of hospitalization and mortality**
  - Seven studies measured effectiveness of NMV/r using a composite endpoint of all-cause hospitalization or mortality; five assessed effectiveness vs no NMV/r with a range of 1%-92% (Figure 3)

## Conclusions

- Real-world studies show that NMV/r provides effective protection against hospitalization and/or death during the Omicron era, regardless of age, vaccination status, and underlying high-risk conditions
- Limitations of the current analysis include the potential for data duplication due to studies leveraging the same datasets; heterogeneity in cohort selection, study endpoint definitions, and follow-up periods precluded a meta-analysis
- Real-world NMV/r effectiveness should be continually monitored as the natural history of COVID-19 and treatment landscape continue to evolve

Figure 1. Systematic literature review PRISMA diagram

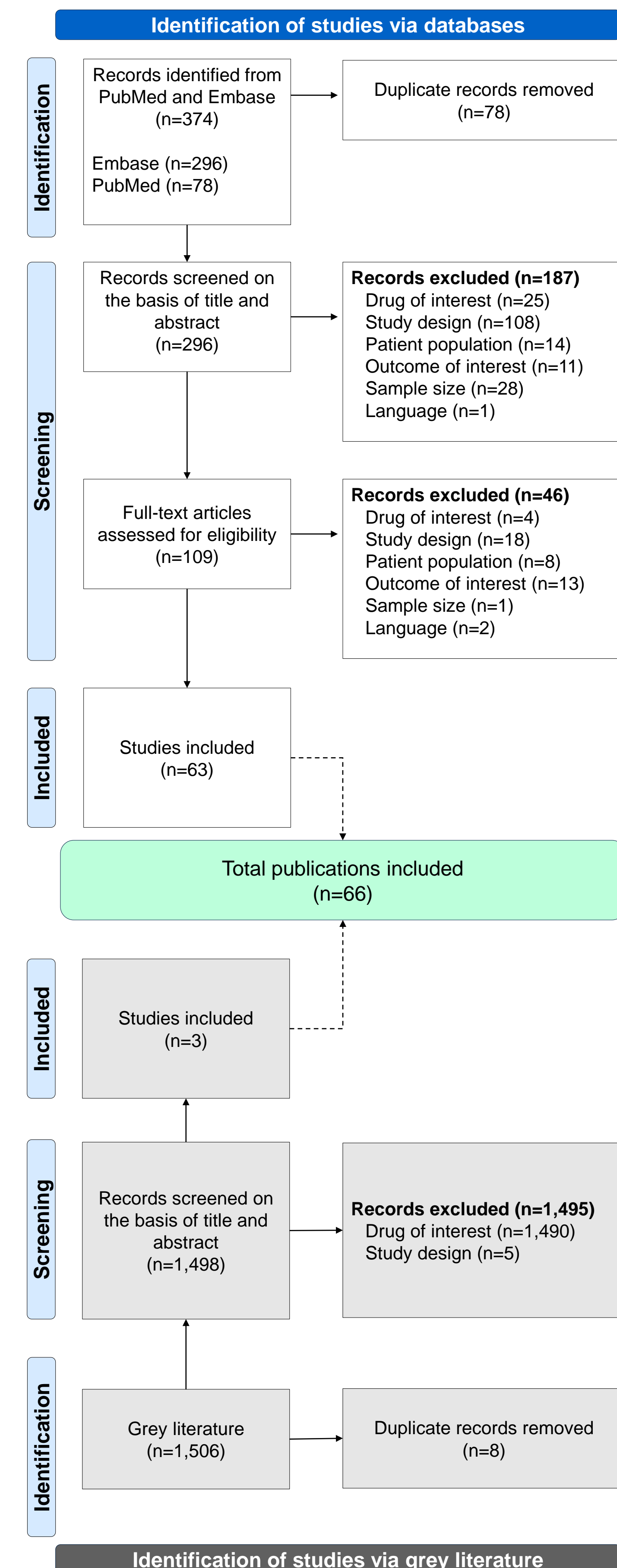


Table 1. Population-intervention-comparators-outcomes-study design criteria

Domain	Inclusion	Exclusion
<b>Population</b>	Adult and pediatric patients (12 years of age and older) diagnosed with mild-to-moderate COVID-19 (not on supplemental oxygen), who are at high or increased risk for progression to severe COVID-19, including hospitalization and death	Studies not reporting on any of the populations specified in the inclusion criteria
<b>Interventions</b>	Nirmatrelvir-ritonavir	Studies not reporting on any of the interventions specified in the inclusion criteria
<b>Comparators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No treatment</li> <li>Best supportive care or standard of care</li> <li>Active comparator, or any intervention recommended for the outpatient treatment of mild-to-moderate COVID-19</li> </ul>	Studies not reporting on any of the comparators specified in the inclusion criteria
<b>Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effectiveness against hospitalization</li> <li>Effectiveness against mortality</li> <li>Effectiveness against a composite endpoint of hospitalization and mortality</li> </ul>	Studies not reporting on any of the outcomes specified in the inclusion criteria
<b>Study Design</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Database analyses</li> <li>Cohort studies</li> <li>Retrospective and prospective observational studies,</li> <li>Case series studies,</li> <li>Registry analyses,</li> <li>Descriptive studies,</li> <li>Non-randomized or non-controlled studies,</li> <li>Surveys</li> </ul>	Network meta-analyses, systematic reviews, animal studies, pharmacokinetic or pharmacodynamic studies, commentary, editorials, errata, letters or notes, randomized controlled trials (RCTs), economic modeling, economic evaluations, guidelines
<b>Publication Date</b>	December 22, 2021 to March 31, 2023	Studies published prior to December 22, 2021 or after March 31, 2023

Figure 2. Effectiveness<sup>a</sup> Against (A) All-cause Hospitalization and (B) All-cause Mortality

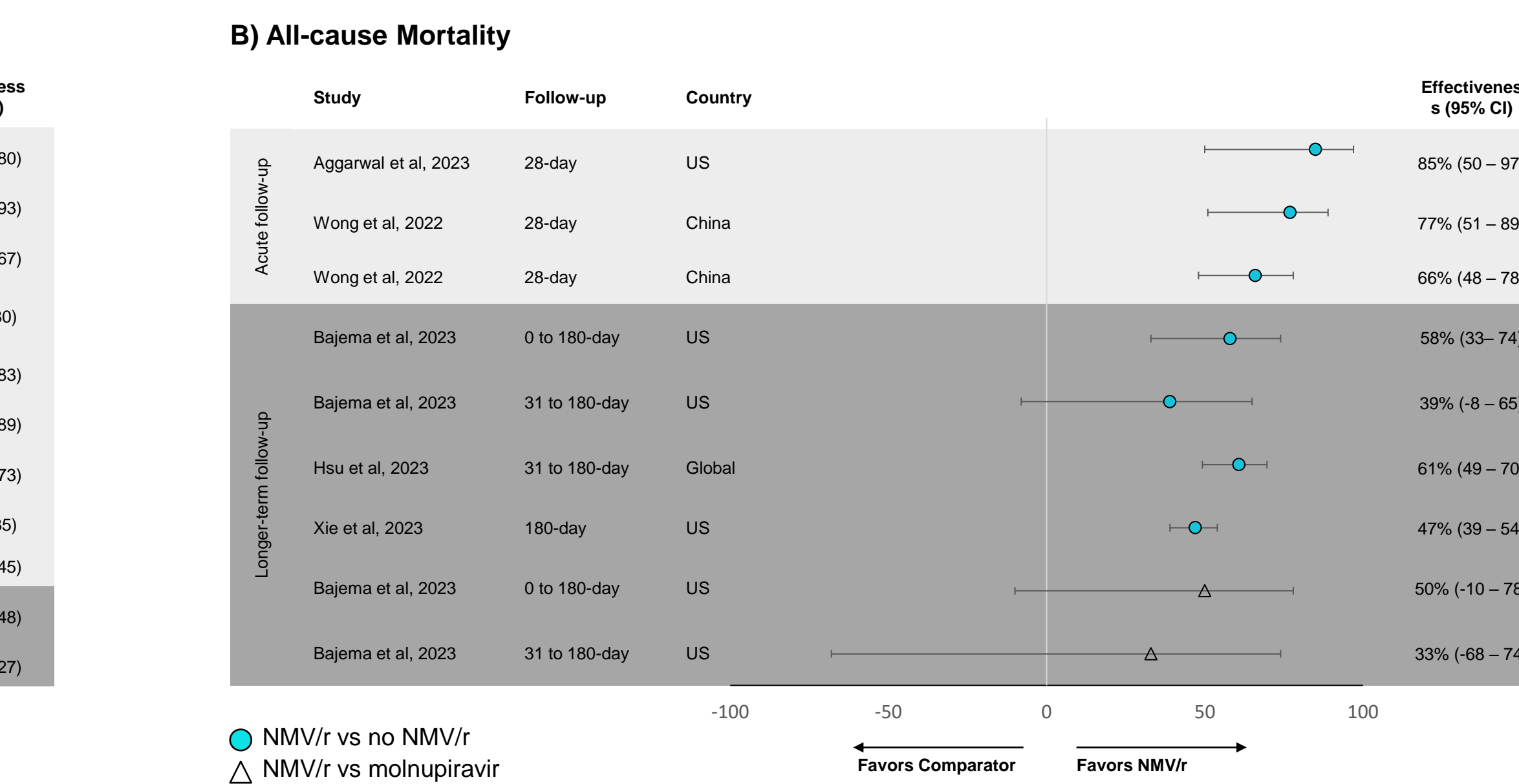
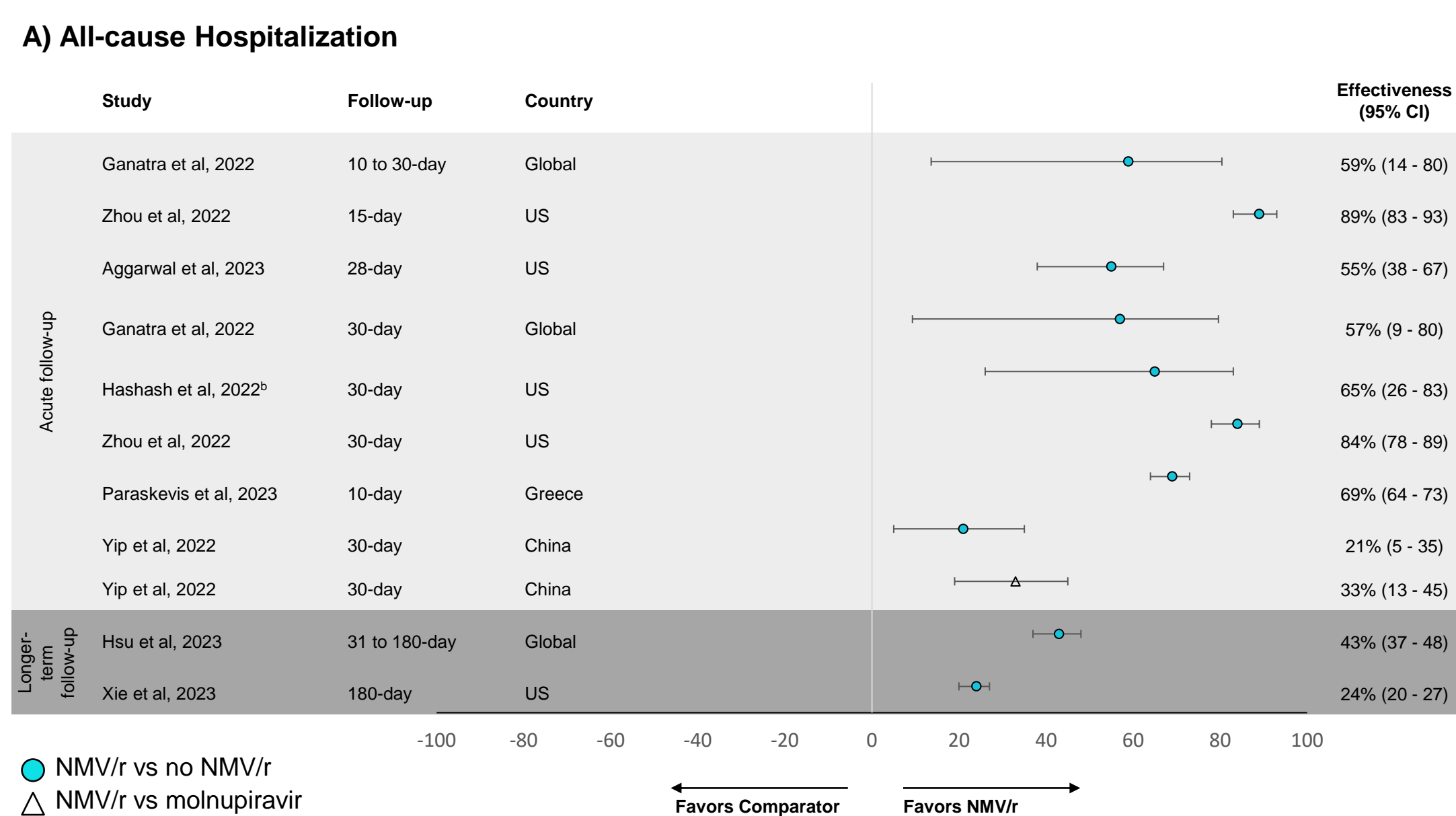


Figure 3. Effectiveness<sup>a</sup> Against All-cause Hospitalization or Mortality

