

# LES: Ensuring continuously updated and timely evidence for decision-makers

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## Living Evidence Synthesis (LES) to support evidence informed decision-making and Canadian public health policies.

**Background:** The COVID-19 pandemic showed the need to unite efforts to produce **timely, collaborative evidence synthesis** aimed to support decision-making in public health systems and reduce research waste. The Unit of Evidence and Deliberation for Decision Making (UNED) of the University of Antioquia in Colombia, has collaborated with McMaster Health Forum and COVID-END to assist Canadian decision-makers in responding to these challenges.

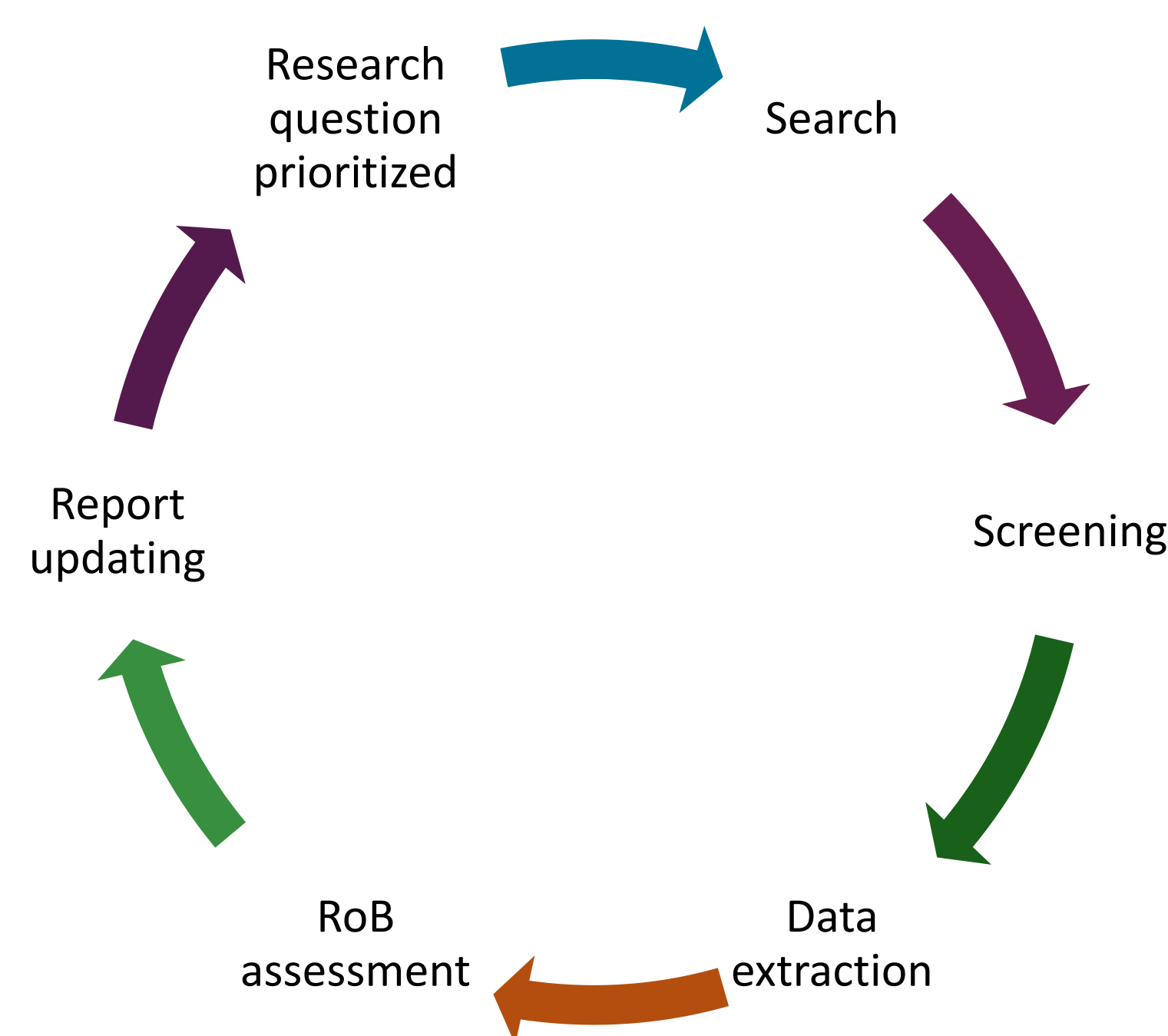
## OUR EXPERIENCE

**Rapid** Living Evidence Synthesis (LES) methods were adopted, to produce **continuously updated synthesis**, incorporating new relevant evidence as it becomes available. Adaptations have been made in processes of search, selection, and extraction of the information, both in workflows and incorporating IA tools whenever possible.

LES are valuable tools to summarize the best available evidence on public health measures in a timely way, ensuring that decision-makers can quickly adapt their approaches informed by evidence.

## METHODS

Reports were screened in duplicate, data extraction and RoB assessments were performed by one team member and a percentage was reviewed by another one. Results are presented narratively.



## Learn More about UNED

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🌐 <https://uned.medicinaudea.co/>



👉 **Access to the full reports (McMaster Health Forum)**

## RESULTS

These LES have **supported decision-making** by the Public Health Agency of Canada and are available for consultation on the McMaster Health Forum website.

### LES 8.22 COVID-19 vaccines for children and adolescents, including variants of concern



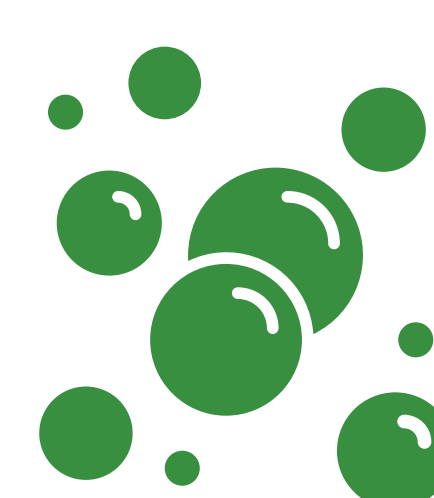
- March 29, 2023 (22nd report)
- 23,361 reports identified
- 43 studies included
- Outcomes included reduction of transmission risk, severe disease, hospitalization and death.

### LES 15.2: Ventilation, Air Filtration and Disinfection for reducing transmission of Respiratory Infectious Diseases in non-health care community-based settings.



- March 28, 2024 (2nd report)
- 4,151 reports identified
- 77 studies included
- RIDs transmission reduction (69)
- Reducing the concentration of infectious particles in the air (7)
- Others (1)

### LES 18.2: Cleaning and Disinfecting for reducing transmission of Respiratory Infectious Diseases in non-healthcare community-based settings.



- March 28, 2024 (2nd report)
- 5,664 reports identified
- 41 studies included
- RIDs transmission reduction (9)
- Deactivating on surfaces (8)
- Unintended consequences (10)
- Controlled setting (14)