

# Dual Screening and Adjudication

**Dual Screening** is a quality-controlled screening process, where two users independently screen each article, and then all screening decisions are adjudicated by an Administrator. Note, this is different than [two-pass screening](#) where a user first reviews abstracts and then full-texts of advanced articles. You can, however, perform [dual two-pass](#) screening in our software.

The Admin adjudicates any disagreement between the original screeners and sets the final determination for each study. For example, if Screener 1 includes a given study but Screener 2 excludes it for Reason 1, the Adjudicator will then need to choose between Inclusion, Excluding for Reason 1, or choosing to Exclude for Reason 2.

***Only those with Admin privileges can serve as Adjudicators, but any user can serve as a Screener.***



## Video

## Configure Exclusion Reasons

You will need to [Configure Exclusion Reasons](#) before screening underlying studies.

## Configure Dual Screening

To configure dual screening in a nest, click on the “Settings” link under Nest Home. Once there, scroll down to the Screening section. Then, click on the “Dual” option in the ( **red box** ).

**Nest Home**  
Activity  
**Settings**

**Literature Search**  
Other Sources  
Duplicate Review  
Search Exploration

**Abstract Screening** ⚙️  
Adjudicate Screening

**Full Text Screening**  
Adjudicate Screening

**Tagging** ⚙️

**Study Inspector**

## Screening

In Standard Screening, one user screens each record. Inclusion sends the record forward for gathering, such as tagging, meta-analytical extraction, and critical appraisal. Exclusion does not queue the record for gathering.

In Dual Screening, two users independently screen each record, and then all screening determinations are reviewed by an administrator. The administrator adjudicates any disagreement between the original screeners to set the final determination for each record.

In Two Pass Screening, all records are first rapidly screened using only title and abstract. Records may be advanced from title/abstract screening to more intensive full text screening, where final inclusion is determined.

In Dual Two Pass Screening, two users rapidly screen all records using only title/abstract and these determinations are reviewed and advanced by an administrator. Two users then screen all full texts and final inclusion is determined by the administrator.

### Choose Mode:

- ☐ Standard  
☒ Two Pass

### Choose number of reviewers:

- ☐ Single  
☒ Dual

Once this is complete, a new “Adjudicate Screening” option will appear in the Nest Menu for all Admins:

**Nest Home**  
Activity  
Settings

**Literature Search**  
Other Sources  
Duplicate Review  
Search Exploration

**Dual Screening** ⚙️  
**Adjudicate Screening**

**Tagging** ⚙️

**MA Extraction** ⚙️

**Critical Appraisal**

**Study Inspector**

1 Jagannathan, 2021

Abstract Full Text Supplements Related Reports

PMC

**Peginterferon Lambda-1a for treatment of outpatients with uncomplicated COVID-19: a randomized placebo-controlled trial.**

Type III interferons have been touted as promising therapeutics in outpatients with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). We conducted a randomized, single-blind, placebo-controlled trial (NCT04331899) in 120 outpatients with mild to moderate COVID-19 to determine whether a single, 180 mcg subcutaneous dose of Peginterferon Lambda-1a (Lambda) within 72 hours of diagnosis could shorten the duration of viral shedding (primary endpoint) or symptoms (secondary endpoint). In both the 60 patients receiving Lambda and 60 receiving placebo, the median time to cessation of viral shedding was 7 days (hazard ratio [HR] = 0.81; 95% confidence interval [CI] 0.56 to 1.19). Symptoms resolved in 8 and 9 days in Lambda and placebo, respectively, and symptom duration did not differ significantly between groups (HR 0.94; 95% CI 0.64 to 1.39). Both Lambda and placebo were well-tolerated, though liver transaminase elevations were more common in the Lambda vs. placebo arm (15/60 vs 5/60; p = 0.027). In this study, a single dose of subcutaneous Peginterferon Lambda-1a neither shortened the duration of SARS-CoV-2 viral shedding nor improved symptoms in outpatients with uncomplicated COVID-19.

Population/Problem Intervention Outcome Your Keywords

98 0 81 0



**Note:** Toggling back from Dual Screening to Standard Screening (or switching to Two-Pass Screening) will ONLY save final adjudications, so all records without an adjudicated Include or Exclude decision will be reverted to Unscreened and **all data associated with individual users' decisions will be lost!**

## Dual Screening Steps

### 1. Screen each study twice

Before Adjudication can take place, two independent users will need to **screen** each underlying study using the same approach as Standard Screening Mode. AutoLit automatically queues the studies to all users until two screening decisions are made; then, the studies are sent forward for adjudication. You may want to view the full text, see instructions on [Full Text Upload](#).

In Dual Screening, it can be useful to view the number of prior reviewers for the current record. This is displayed to the right of the include button (see below). 0 means no decisions have been made about

the current record, 1 means 1 reviewer has made a decision, and so on.

The screenshot shows the Dual Screening interface for a study titled "Peginterferon Lambda-1a for treatment of outpatients with uncomplicated COVID-19: a randomized placebo-controlled trial." The interface includes a left sidebar with navigation options, a main content area with the study abstract and full text, and a right sidebar with the Dual Screening process. The right sidebar shows the "Dual Screening" section with "Exclude" and "Include" buttons. A red box highlights the "Include" button in the "Include" section.

However, in Dual modes the status of whether the full text has been uploaded or not by the other reviewer is hidden. This is to avoid bias as the knowledge that the other user has uploaded the record's full text may influence your screening decision. You still have the option to show the full text upload status as well as the full text regardless by clicking "Show Anyways." This action does not affect your screening decisions.

The screenshot shows the Dual Screening interface with a "Full Text Blinded" message. The message states: "The full text may or may not be uploaded. Knowing this information may bias your screening decision, by revealing the actions of another reviewer." A "Show Anyways" button is visible. The interface also shows the "Dual Screening" section with "Exclude" and "Include" buttons, and a list of reasons for exclusion.

## 2. [OPTIONAL] Auto-Adjudicate

All studies that have undergone two screening decisions are sent forward for adjudication, and any study that is either Included by both Screeners or Excluded by both Screeners is eligible for Auto-Adjudication.

To Auto-Adjudicate all eligible studies, navigate to Adjudicate Screening, and in the upper right, select "Auto-adjudicate {x} studies" ( red box ). This will automatically include all studies that both Screeners included, and exclude all studies that both Screeners excluded.

If Screener 1 and Screener 2 selected different Exclusion Reasons, the Auto-Adjudication will select only one of these and apply it as the final Exclusion Reason.

The screenshot displays the 'Dual Screening' interface. On the left is a sidebar with navigation options: Nest Home, Activity, Settings, Literature Search, Other Sources, Duplicate Review, Search Exploration, Dual Screening (highlighted), Adjudicate Screening (highlighted), Tagging, MA Extraction, Critical Appraisal, Study Inspector, and Synthesis. The main area shows the abstract of a study titled 'Efficacy and safety of favipiravir, an oral RNA-dependent RNA polymerase inhibitor, in mild-to-moderate COVID-19: A randomized, comparative, open-label, multicenter, phase 3 clinical trial.' The abstract text is partially visible. On the right is a sidebar with sections: Agreements (with a button 'Auto Adjudicate 12 Studies'), Navigation (with 'Back' and 'Skip' buttons), Preliminary Screenings (with 'Screening 1' and 'Screening 2' sections), Select Different Option (with a 'Full Text Review' checkbox and a search bar), and Tagging. The 'Select Different Option' section is highlighted with a red box, showing a list of reasons for exclusion: 'Not an RCT of a drug of interest', 'Protocol or Methods article', 'Systematic Review or Meta-analysis', 'Editorial, comment, or opinion article', 'Not related to COVID-19', 'Qualitative review of existing research', and 'Not an antiviral'.

### 3. Adjudicate Disagreements

For any study that is not Auto-Adjudicated, an Admin will need to manually adjudicate in order to provide a final screening decision. The Admin should choose between selecting the decision of Screener 1 or Screener 2, or if both are incorrect, provide a different option ( **red box** ). Once adjudicated, the studies will either be excluded or included and sent forward to **Tagging**.

Note: by default, the names of the reviewers will be displayed alongside their decisions. You may want to reduce bias by hiding this information. To do so you can [Blind Adjudication in Settings](#).

### Kappa Statistics for Interrater Reliability

After you finish Dual Screening, you can view the [Kappa statistics](#) in [Activity](#).

### Guidance on Dual Screening Best Practices

For guidance on best practices in Dual Screening, click [here](#).

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