In the Corner with...

Dr. Braden Manns
Co-Chair
Scientific Advisory Group
Alberta Health Services

Are NSAIDS safe during the COVID-19 pandemic?
Scientific Advisory Group COVID-19 Recommendations
novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

AHS’ Scientific Advisory Group is connecting with clinicians, operational leaders, researchers and other experts to review emerging evidence and guidance of national and international bodies to provide information for focused areas of healthcare in relation to COVID-19. These resources are created to provide research informed advice to AHS physicians, staff, patients and families. Reports are updated frequently based on emerging evidence or concerns.

COVID-19 Resources for AHS Staff & Health Professionals


Key Research Topic: Use of Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs) in COVID-19 Patients

1. Should patients who are on prescribed NSAIDs as chronic therapy stop taking these drugs if they develop COVID-19?
2. Should NSAIDs be used for anti-pyretic therapy or other indications in patients with COVID-19?

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Key Messages from the Evidence Summary

- The evidence is from existing guidance and literature reviews
  - No primary studies were identified that support or refute the safety of NSAIDs for treatment of COVID-19 symptoms
- Guidance from Canadian sources and the European Medicines Agency
  - Patients who take prescribed NSAIDs prior to developing COVID-19 should continue to take their medication
- Canadian, British, and American guidance
  - Suggest that acetaminophen should be the first-line treatment for fever
  - This is recommended out of an abundance of caution due to the absence of evidence regarding ibuprofen

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For more information