

# COVID-19 Evidence Bulletin

28<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Details of new guidance and evidence relating to the response to COVID-19. Please check SaTH, NHS and Government guidance in conjunction with these resources where necessary.

## General

**Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19): Initial telephone triage of adult outpatients** [clinical pathway from UpToDate.

Available [here](#). Last modified 19th May.

**Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)** [evidence summary from BMJ Best Practice]

Available [here](#). Last updated 27th May

## Cardiovascular Care

**COVID-19 rapid evidence summary: angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors (ACEIs) or angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs) in people with or at risk of COVID-19** [National Institute for Health and Care Excellence]

["Whilst no increase in risk of developing COVID-19 or more severe disease was found in the 2 observational studies included, the studies were of poor quality and subject to bias and confounding. Therefore, conclusions cannot be drawn on whether ACEIs or ARBs increase the risk of developing COVID-19 or developing more severe COVID-19."]

Available [here](#)

**Prevention and Treatment of Venous Thromboembolism Associated with Coronavirus Disease 2019 Infection: A Consensus Statement before Guidelines** [Zhai Z. *Thrombosis and Haemostasis*]

[Based on frontline practical experience and comprehensive literature review, here a panel of experts and physicians from China and Europe developed an evidence and opinion-based consensus on the prophylaxis and management of VTE associated with COVID-19.]

Available [here](#)

## Critical and Intensive Care

**Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19): Critical care and airway management issues** [evidence summary from UpToDate]

Available [here](#). Last updated 23<sup>rd</sup> May

## Emergency Care

**Internal Professional Standards for Clinicians Working in SaTH Urgent Care Pathways – Updated Version During Covid-19 Pandemic** [Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust]

[These ten standards aim to improve the care of patients admitted through our emergency departments. These are focused on identifying the steps required for ensuring that patients are rapidly seen and cared for by the right

specialist, the right nursing and healthcare team, in the right place.

Available [here](#) [access only available via SaTH Intranet]

## Gastroenterology

**AGIP Council Guidance in Relation to GI Physiology Provision during the COVID-19 Pandemic** [British Society of Gastroenterology]

[Gives guidance on upper and lower gastrointestinal tests, levels of PPE required, and provision for the restoration of GI physiology services.]

Available [here](#)

**Performing CT colonography in the early recovery phase of Covid-19 pandemic** [Society and College of Radiographers]

[Jointly created by the British Society of Gastrointestinal and Abdominal Radiology (BSGAR) and the SoR, the document provides advice on carrying out CTC and maintaining safe systems of work. This is a practical document to support staff in delivering a safe CTC service to patients as we move into the endemic phase of Covid-19]

Available [here](#)

## Haematology

**Coagulopathy in COVID-19: Recommendations for Laboratory Testing and Thromboprophylaxis for patients with confirmed COVID-19** [Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust]

[The guidance is based on evidence that suggests patients are more at risk of developing thromboses and, therefore, require enhanced dosing of their low molecular weight heparin. All patients must be risk assessed on admission, monitored and treated accordingly during their stay and on discharge.]

Available [here](#) [access only available via SaTH Intranet]

**COVID 19 rapid evidence summary: Anakinra for COVID-19 associated secondary haemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis** [National Institute for Health and Care Excellence]

["Anakinra is a recombinant interleukin-1 (IL-1) receptor antagonist that blocks the biologic activity of natural IL-1 by competitively inhibiting the binding of IL-1 to the interleukin-1 type receptor (Kineret summary of product characteristics). IL-1 is a proinflammatory mediator produced in response to infection and is central to the hyperinflammation seen in cytokine storm syndromes such as sHLH (Mehta et al 2020)."]

Available [here](#)

## Obstetrics and Gynaecology

**Immunomodulatory drugs and pregnancy prevention: temporary advice for management during coronavirus (COVID-19)** [Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency]

[Drug Safety Update. Guidance has been published about thalidomide, lenalidomide, and pomalidomide and the use of remote consultations and home pregnancy testing for patients taking them during COVID-19.]

Available [here](#)

**Obstetric ultrasound examinations during the COVID-19 pandemic** [Society and College of Radiographers]

[The Society and College of Radiographers (SCoR), in collaboration with the Royal College of Midwives (RCM), the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) and the British Medical Ultrasound Society (BMUS), has produced this joint statement on the recording of ultrasound examinations and the use of private ultrasound providers during the COVID-19 pandemic, to offer guidance to members, providers and service users.]

Available [here](#)

**Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19): Pregnancy issues** [evidence summary from UpToDate]

Available [here](#). Last updated 22<sup>nd</sup> May

## Ophthalmology

**Viral conjunctivitis and COVID-19** [College of Optometrists]

[A joint statement from The Royal College of Ophthalmologists and College of Optometrists.]

Available [here](#)

**Remote consultations during COVID-19 pandemic** [College of Optometrists]

[These temporary guidelines have been written to help optometrists who are conducting remote telephone/video consultations with patients.]

Available [here](#)

**Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic: Guidance for optometrists** [College of Optometrists]

[The aim of this guidance is to help you to continue to run your practice, by adapting it to make it as safe as possible for you, your staff and your patients, and reduce the likelihood of contracting or spreading the virus.]

Available [here](#)

## Pharmacology

**One Minute Brief: Shortage of Lorazepam Injection 4mg in 1ml** [Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust] Our

[Colleagues in Pharmacy have issued information and guidance regarding a current shortage of Lorazepam as this could affect some of the choices being made when considering treatment; so please do make yourselves aware of the update.]

Available [here](#) [access only available via SaTH Intranet]

**Coronavirus (COVID-19): new dedicated Yellow Card reporting site for medicines and medical devices**

[Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency]

[Reporting to the new site will enable the MHRA to rapidly identify new and emerging side effects and medical device incidents in COVID-19 treatment, including side effects for medicines taken by patients to manage long-term or pre-existing conditions.]

Available [here](#)

**COVID-19 rapid evidence summary: Long-term use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) for people with or at risk of COVID-19** [National Institute for Health and Care Excellence]

["There is no evidence to suggest that people taking NSAIDs for a long-term condition should be advised to stop treatment in the context of COVID-19. Gastrointestinal, respiratory, cardiovascular and renal adverse effects are listed among the possible adverse effects of NSAIDs in the BNF. COVID-19 may also lead to respiratory, cardiovascular and renal complications."]

Available [here](#)

**Bacterial and fungal co-infection in individuals with coronavirus: A rapid review to support COVID-19 antimicrobial prescribing** [Rawson TM. *Clinical Infectious Diseases* 2020]

[Despite frequent prescription of broad-spectrum empirical antimicrobials in patients with coronavirus associated respiratory infections, there is a paucity of data to support the association with respiratory bacterial/fungal co-infection. Generation of prospective evidence to support development of antimicrobial policy and appropriate stewardship interventions specific for the COVID-19 pandemic are urgently required.]

Available [here](#)

## Radiography

### **Screening restart: Guidance for safe service provision during Covid-19 pandemic and post pandemic phase**

[Society and College of Radiographers]

[The Society and College of Radiographers (SCoR), in collaboration with the Royal College of Radiologists (RCR), has produced this joint guidance to support the restarting of screening services involving imaging during the COVID-19 pandemic. This document offers guidance to members and providers. It supports 'paused' or 'stopped' services to recommence safely, protecting staff and clients.]

Available [here](#)

## Rehabilitation

### **Rapid scan 2: Rehabilitation needs and post-ICU recovery for severe Covid19 patients** [evidence search by NHS Midlands and Lancashire Commissioning Support Unit]

Available [here](#). Last updated 13<sup>th</sup> May

## Remote working

### **Coronavirus (COVID-19): remote care through telehealth** [Cochrane Collaboration]

[This Special Collection includes Cochrane Reviews that address using telehealth to support clinical management of various conditions, including asthma, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, dementia, reproductive health, and skin cancer. It includes reviews of using telehealth to provide carer and parent support as well as empowering patient self-management of their long-term conditions.]

Available [here](#)

## Respiratory Care

### **Cytokine adsorption devices for treating respiratory failure in people with COVID-19** [National Institute for Health and Care Excellence]

[The technologies described in this briefing are cytokine adsorption devices. They are for reducing blood levels of cytokines in people with COVID-19 and respiratory failure. The innovative aspects are that the cytokine adsorption devices reduce harmful levels of cytokines in the blood. The intended place in therapy would be in addition to critical care for people with COVID-19 and respiratory failure.]

Available [here](#)

## Testing

### **Coronavirus (COVID-19): antibody tests** [Department of Health and Social Care]

[This guidance tells you about the government's antibody testing programme for coronavirus. It sets out: what antibody testing is; what an antibody test will tell you; who is eligible for testing. The infographic shows you the differences between coronavirus tests.]

Available [here](#)

## KnowledgeShare Evidence Alerts

KnowledgeShare contains many updates on COVID-19 that can be accessed from the [KnowledgeShare website](#) without a password. If you'd like to receive these by email (along with updates on any other topics of interest) please complete the [form](#).

## About this bulletin

The COVID-19 Evidence Bulletin is prepared by Shrewsbury and Telford Health Libraries. Links to the full-text of items listed is provided where available, but if you need copies of any items where no full-text is available, please request them the [Article Request](#) form. Some items require an [NHS OpenAthens](#) account.

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