

Treating COVID-19 at Home

Most people with COVID-19 will not need hospitalization and recover with fluids and rest.

Here is what we know so far about some of the medications studied for the treatment of COVID-19 outside the hospital.



Not enough information to use.

Budesonide (Pulmicort)

Steroid puffer used for asthma and COPD

One study in older (>65 years) and higher risk people showed people felt better faster but no proof it prevented hospital admission, serious illness or death.

Risk: May increase risk of bacterial pneumonia.

Vitamins and Supplements

Important for growth and staying healthy

Vitamin C, D, and zinc have not shown any benefit in COVID-19. Low doses are safe if not part of your regular diet.

Risk: High doses may be dangerous.



Does not help or can cause harm.

Colchicine

Gout Treatment

Studies do not show any benefit to help symptoms or lower chance of being admitted to hospital or dying.

Risk: This medication often causes diarrhea and may cause kidney problems.

Hydroxychloroquine

Arthritis, Malaria Treatment

This drug is not useful in COVID-19. It does not make you feel better faster or reduce the chance of getting seriously sick or dying.

Risk: Can cause fatal heart rhythms.

Azithromycin

Antibiotic

COVID-19 is caused by a virus. Antibiotics cannot kill viruses. Does not prevent COVID-19 from becoming severe or help you feel better faster.

Risk: Stomach upset and diarrhea. Can contribute to antibiotic resistance.



Only safe and effective if hospitalized.

Dexamethasone
Powerful Steroid

Remdesivir
Antiviral

Tocilizumab
Immunosuppressant

Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you have questions.

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