

COV/GLA/20/04 - Hypertension, inhibitors of the renin angiotensin system and COVID-19

There is a lot of coverage in the media that certain drugs to treat high blood pressure (hypertension) may worsen COVID-19. However, there is no clinical evidence to support this and there is much confusion for both patients and doctors. Many patients are stopping their hypertension medication, which is dangerous as this could lead to severe heart disease and even death. Our study will examine if hypertensive patients have more severe COVID-19 than patients who do not have pre-existing hypertension. We will also assess if certain blood pressure drugs aggravate or improve infection. This is especially important in Scotland where the rate of hypertension is high. Our study will provide information to guide doctors and patients in the coming months as we treat COVID.