

# COVID-19 Drugs & Treatment

For more information on therapeutics, visit <https://covidprotocols.org/protocols/therapeutics>.

See also: **Inpatient**, **Outpatient**, and **ICU Patient** guides at <https://covidprotocols.org/quick-guides>

## ANTIBIOTICS

- Use only if concerned for bacterial co-infection
  - procalcitonin not reliable in cytokine storm
- **Azithromycin**: use only if indicated for bacterial infection

## ANTICOAGULATION

- **Therapeutic AC**: if otherwise indicated; currently *not recommended* for treatment of COVID alone
- **Prophylactic AC**: given increased VTE risk, COVID ICU patients need higher prophylaxis
  - hold if PLT < 25K, neurosurgery, hemorrhage, etc.
  - PTT may not be reliable due to coagulopathy, in some patients consider anti-Xa monitoring
    - » Goal peak for VTE ppx is between 0.2 and 0.5 (measured 4–6 hours after 3–4 injections)
  - *outpatients*: no prophylaxis unless otherwise indicated, recommend frequent ambulation

### Inpatient ppx (normal dose)

WEIGHT	CrCl ≥ 30 ml/min	CrCl < 30 ml/min
Low (< 50 kg)	Enoxaparin 30 mg daily	UFH 5,000 units BID or TID
Standard	Enoxaparin 40 mg daily	UFH 5,000 units q8h
Obese (≥ 120 kg or BMI ≥ 35)	Enoxaparin 40 mg BID or 0.5 mg/kg daily (max 100mg daily)	UFH 7,500 units q8h

### ICU/post-ICU ppx until discharge (high dose)

WEIGHT	CrCl ≥ 30 ml/min	CrCl < 30 ml/min
Low (< 50 kg)	Enoxaparin 30 mg daily	UFH 7,500 units q8h
Standard	Enoxaparin 40 mg BID	UFH 7,500 units q8h
Obese (≥ 120 kg or BMI ≥ 35)	Enoxaparin 0.5 mg/kg daily (max 100mg daily)	UFH 10,000 units q8h

## ANTIHYPERTENSIVES

- **ACEIs/ARBs**: use as normal (no additional risk)
- **CCBs**: use as normal

## ANTI-INFLAMMATORIES / IMMUNOSUPPRESSANTS

*Page prescribing physician to discuss before changing home immunosuppression (some can be safely held, others cannot).*

- **Steroids**: *strongly consider* if on supplemental oxygen
  - **Dexamethasone** 6 mg IV or PO daily × 10 days, or alternative equivalents:
    - » **Hydrocortisone** 50 mg IV q8h × 10 days
    - » **Methylprednisolone** 15 mg IV BID × 10 days
    - » **Prednisone** 40 mg PO daily × 10 days
- **Anti-IL1, Anti-IL6**: consult Rheum or Pulmonary
- **Hydroxychloroquine**: do not use
- **NSAIDs**: use as normal

## ANTITUSSIVES AND EXPECTORANTS

- **Guaifenesin** may help with secretions
- **Dextromethorphan, Benzonatate, Codeine** for cough

## ANTIVIRALS

*ID follows inpatients for clinical trials and current Tx. (See Therapeutics Summary at covidprotocols.org)*

- **Remdesivir** recommended if patient meets EUA criteria
- **Convalescent Plasma**: unclear benefit, likely depends on titer and neutralizing Ab; available only via clinical trial
- *No convincing evidence* for: Interferon, IVIG, Lopinavir/Ritonavir, Ribavirin, Zinc, Vitamin C

## BRONCHODILATORS/INHALERS

- Bronchodilators if patient has asthma or COPD, but not routinely indicated for COVID
- Use MDIs if possible (less aerosolizing), *treat nebulizers as AGP* unless ventilated (in-line closed circuit neb)

## INTRAVENOUS HYDRATION

- Conservative boluses as needed (LR preferred) with dynamic measures of response (delta BP, UOP, PPV, CVP)
- Avoid maintenance IVF due to hypoxemia risk