

Paracetamol, Ibuprofen, ACE-inhibitors and Angiotensin II Receptor Blockers

Guidance on use in Covid-19

Information for:

Nurses	✓
Prescribers	✓
Pharmacy	✓

Paracetamol & Ibuprofen

We are proactively managing the increased demand and intermittent short-term shortages of paracetamol oral formulations and ibuprofen

Intravenous paracetamol supplies are unaffected at this time

Pharm@Sea have a selection of over-the-counter preparations available which can be purchased by outpatients and those being discharged from hospital

What does this mean at BSUH?

- Oral paracetamol should be prioritised for inpatients with a fever $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$
- Ibuprofen should currently **NOT** be used to treat fever associated with suspected / confirmed Covid-19 infection
- If taking ibuprofen or any NSAID for other indications, the recommendation is to continue unless medical conditions dictate otherwise

Clinical Alternatives

Naproxen is available to manage **acute pain** in the absence of fever in those whom have no contraindications to NSAIDs

Prescribing guidelines can be found on the Trust intranet > Pharmacy > Prescribing guidelines > Central Nervous System > Trust pain guidelines

ACE-inhibitors and Angiotensin II Receptor Blockers

The BCS, BSHF and BIHS have issued helpful guidance on the use of ACEi and ARB in Covid-19 infection:-

- *There is no evidence to support the assertion that ACEi or ARB can predispose individuals to adverse outcomes should they become infected with Covid-19.*
- *Patients should continue treatment with ACEi or ARB unless medical conditions dictate otherwise*
- *Patients taking these drugs and presenting unwell with suspected or known Covid-19 infection should be assessed on an individual basis and medication managed according to established guidance*

References: British and Irish Hypertension Society Statement and British Cardiovascular Society and British Society for Heart Failure Joint Statement—16th March 2020

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IMMEDIATE ACTION