

Leflunomide + Interferon alfa-2a vs Interferon alfa 2a for COVID-19

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Question: Should Leflunomide + Interferon alfa-2a compared to Interferon alfa 2a be used for COVID-19?

Setting: Inpatient

Certainty assessment							№ of patients		Effect		Certainty
№ of studies	Study design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	Leflunomide + Interferon alfa-2a	Interferon alfa 2a	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)	
All-cause mortality											
1 ¹	randomised trials	serious ^a	not serious	not serious	very serious ^b	none	The study reports that none of the patients in either group died		⊕○○○ VERY LOW		
Progression of COVID-19 disease											
1 ¹	randomised trials	serious ^a	not serious	not serious	very serious ^b	none	The study reports that none of the patients in either group progress to a severe condition of the disease		⊕○○○ VERY LOW		
Number of patients with adverse events											
1 ¹	randomised trials	serious ^a	not serious	not serious	very serious ^b	none	10/26 (38.5%)	4/26 (15.4%)	RR 2.50 (0.90 to 6.96)	231 more per 1.000 (from 15 fewer to 917 more)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW

Explanations

- a. Downgraded of one level for high risk of performance bias and unclear risk of selection bias
 b. Downgraded of two level for very small sample size

References

1. Wang M, Zhao Y, Hu W, Zhao D, Zhang Y, Wang T, et al Treatment of COVID-19 Patients with Prolonged Post-Symptomatic Viral Shedding with Leflunomide -- a Single-Center, Randomized, Controlled Clinical Trial. Clin Infect Dis. 2020 Sep 21:ciaa1417. doi: 10.1093/cid/ciaa1417. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 32955081.