

Question Time: Medication for coronavirus!



Q: I have coronavirus symptoms, can I have a prescription for antibiotics?

No. Coronavirus is a viral infection and antibiotics are not not effective to fight it. Indeed most infections are viral. <https://youtu.be/zTbLai2GaQM> If you are still suffering from symptoms of coronavirus after a number of days, it's possible you may be referred to a special covid clinic who will be able to advise further.



Q: What's the best OTC medication to take if I have coronavirus symptoms?

The best thing to take is paracetamol. The pharmacist can advise further. There is enough paracetamol being manufactured to meet everyone's needs, but at the moment people are stockpiling, and that is making it very difficult for those who need it to get hold of it. Please don't stockpile! Only buy what you need.



Q: Can I take ibuprofen or naproxen?

Yes, if you have taken it before. There have been reports that it is unsafe to take these anti-inflammatory medications if you have coronavirus, but these reports are as yet unfounded, and the NHS advice is that it is safe to take them.



Q: I have coronavirus symptoms and am already taking ACE inhibitors for my high blood pressure (such as Ramipril, Lisinopril etc). I have heard that these are unsafe to take with coronavirus. Can I continue to take them?

Yes. There have been reports that ACE inhibitors are unsafe to take if you have coronavirus symptoms, but again these reports are unfounded and the NHS advice is to continue taking your normal medication. (ACE inhibitors may be prescribed for a variety of conditions, not just high blood pressure).

Rashes, lumps and bumps

If you have a rash, a lump or bump you're worried about, you can use your online account (call us if it isn't activated), and send us a picture of it through the messaging service. We will get back to you as quickly as we can, and usually within the same day. Please do not email us as this may result in a delay.