

Press Release

EMA clarifies no scientific evidence to deter use of ibuprofen to manage coronavirus symptoms

For Immediate Release Brussels, 18 March 2020

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) has published today a <u>press release</u> to address concerns about the use of ibuprofen and other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) in COVID-19 patients.

According to the Agency, when starting treatment for fever or pain in COVID-19, patients and healthcare professionals should consider all available treatment options including paracetamol and NSAIDs. Each medicine has its own benefits and risks which are reflected in its product information and which should be considered along with EU national treatment guidelines, most of which recommend paracetamol as a first treatment option for fever or pain.

In line with EU national treatment guidelines, patients and healthcare professionals can continue using NSAIDs (like ibuprofen) as per the approved product information. Current advice includes that these medicines are used at the lowest effective dose for the shortest possible period.

The agency also highlighted that there is currently no scientific evidence establishing a link between ibuprofen and worsening of COVID-19. EMA is monitoring the situation closely and will review any new information that becomes available on this issue in the context of the pandemic and has committed provide further information as necessary and once the PRAC review is concluded.

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