



COVID-19 Medication Myths



Antibiotics will help treat COVID-19.

False. COVID-19 is caused by a **virus** called SARS-CoV-2. Just as antibiotics don't work against viruses that cause the cold and flu, antibiotics can't treat this virus either. Antibiotics only work against **bacteria**, and should only be used in COVID-19 if there is a bacterial infection (such as bacterial pneumonia) in addition to COVID-19. Unnecessary antibiotic use can cause side effects and lead to bacteria becoming resistant.



Anti-inflammatory drugs worsen COVID-19.

False. If you are regularly taking anti-inflammatory drugs like ibuprofen (Advil[®]), naproxen (Aleve[®]) or acetylsalicylic acid (Aspirin[®]), do not stop them without talking to your healthcare provider. For fever or pain due to COVID-19, there isn't enough information to show that anti-inflammatory drugs are unsafe.



Some blood pressure medications are unsafe in COVID-19.

False. There isn't any proof that blood pressure medications are unsafe in COVID-19. In fact, most experts and organizations like the Canadian Cardiovascular Society and the American College of Cardiology strongly recommend continuing these medications in stable patients to prevent blood pressure or heart problems.



[Click here for information on drugs for COVID-19](#)

For information on the **truths** in COVID-19

Visit www.canada.ca/COVID-19 and talk to your doctor or pharmacist if you have questions.



Ontario
COVID-19
Clinical Practice
Guidelines
Updated June 26, 2020