

Ref no: 20200624/CM-H/dexamethasone treatment COVID-19

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**To All Shropshire GP Practices**

Dear Colleagues

**RE: Dexamethasone in the treatment of COVID-19**

Following the recent findings reported from the RECOVERY (Randomised Evaluation of COVID-19 thERapY) trial, there have been a number of queries raised by clinicians in relation to the use of Dexamethasone for patients with COVID-19.

The RECOVERY trial demonstrated benefit in patients with COVID-19 who were hospitalised and required ventilation or oxygen; there was no benefit among those patients who did not require respiratory support.

Dexamethasone has therefore been demonstrated to have a clear place in the management of hospitalised patients with COVID-19 but is **not appropriate for the management of patients outside hospital.**

In order to ensure that there is a continued supply and that a sufficient stock of Dexamethasone is available to meet the needs of COVID-19 hospitalised patients, Dexamethasone should not be prescribed for patients with COVID-19 who are outside of hospital.

For further information please visit:

[https://www.recoverytrial.net/files/recovery\\_dexamethasone\\_statement\\_160620\\_final.pdf](https://www.recoverytrial.net/files/recovery_dexamethasone_statement_160620_final.pdf)

[https://www.cas.mhra.gov.uk/ViewandAcknowledgment/ViewAttachment.aspx?Attachment\\_id=103594](https://www.cas.mhra.gov.uk/ViewandAcknowledgment/ViewAttachment.aspx?Attachment_id=103594)

Yours sincerely



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