

MEDICAL BREAKTHROUGHS

RESEARCH SUMMARY

TOPIC: COVID IN THE ICU: OLD PRACTICES, INCREASED BENEFITS?
REPORT: **MB #4929**

BACKGROUND OF COVID-19: Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that can infect people and many animals, including camels, cattle, cats, and bats. There are many types of coronaviruses, including some that give people a common head or chest cold while other coronavirus diseases like severe acute respiratory syndrome or SARS and Middle East respiratory syndrome or MERS are extremely dangerous but are much less widespread than colds and COVID-19. COVID-19 most often causes respiratory symptoms that can feel much like a cold, a flu, or pneumonia, but COVID-19 can also harm other parts of the body. Most people who catch COVID-19 have mild symptoms, but some people become severely ill. Older adults and people who have certain medical conditions are at a higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19.

(Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/about-covid-19/basics-covid-19.html>)

DIAGNOSING COVID-19: COVID-19 tests can test for current infection or past infection. A viral test will tell whether someone currently has the infection. The two types of viral tests are nucleic acid amplification tests, NAATs, and antigen tests. An antibody test could reveal if a person has had a past coronavirus infection; however these tests should not be used to diagnose a current infection. Fully vaccinated people with no COVID-19 symptoms do not need to be tested following an exposure to someone with COVID-19. The CDC recommends that anyone with any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 get tested, regardless of vaccination status or prior infection. If someone gets tested because they have symptoms or were potentially exposed to the virus, they should stay away from others pending test results and follow the advice of your health care provider or a public health professional.

(Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/testing.html#:~:text=A%20viral%20test%20tells%20you,to%20diagnose%20a%20current%20infection>)

NEW STUDY ON COVID-19 TREATMENTS: The ACTIV-2 study is testing different investigational treatments. Participants are assigned an investigational treatment or placebo will not be able to choose which one you are given. The two treatments are Biosciences and AstraZeneca. For the Biosciences patients will be given as 2 infusions, one right after the other, for a total of about 60 minutes. An infusion means the treatment is given slowly through a thin tube attached to small needle in your arm. For the AstraZeneca patients will receive 2 injections, one in each thigh. The injections are given one right after the other.

(Source: <https://www.riseabovecovid.org/en/treatment-summary/#azd7442-injection>)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS REPORT, PLEASE CONTACT:

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If this story or any other Ivanhoe story has impacted your life or prompted you or someone you know to seek or change treatments, please let us know by contacting Marjorie Bekaert Thomas at mthomas@ivanhoe.com