

# The prognosis of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in patients recently treated with immunosuppressant medications.

**First published:** 29/06/2020

**Last updated:** 27/03/2024

Study

Ongoing

## Administrative details

### EU PAS number

EUPAS36056

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### Study ID

41572

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### DARWIN EU® study

No

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### Study countries

☐ Denmark

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### Study description

Immunosuppressant medications are effective treatments for several immune-mediated inflammatory diseases, as well as vasculitides, chronic lung diseases and certain malignancies. These medications have a strong effect on the immune system decreasing inflammation, but this has prompted concerns regarding the body's defence against infection. This is particularly pertinent during the current epidemic of coronavirus (COVID-19), as a weakened immune system may be vulnerable to severe coronavirus disease. We aim to evaluate the prognosis of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-COV-2) infection in patients treated with immunomodulating medications, including immunosuppressants and systemic glucocorticoids. We will leverage unique Danish health registers to conduct a nationwide cohort study of the outcome of SARS-COV-2 infection, i.e. admission to hospital, admission to intensive care unit (intensive care observation/intensive care therapy) or death, in this patient population, with adjustment for the severity of patients' underlying indication for immunosuppression, as well as other factors that may affect the course of coronavirus disease.

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## Study status

Ongoing

## Research institutions and networks

### Institutions

[University of Southern Denmark \(SDU\)](#)

☐ Denmark

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## Contact details

### Study institution contact

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Study contact

[apottegaard@health.sdu.dk](mailto:apottegaard@health.sdu.dk)

### Primary lead investigator

Jesper Hallas

Primary lead investigator

## Study timelines

### Date when funding contract was signed

Planned: 27/02/2020

Actual: 27/02/2020

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### Study start date

Planned: 27/02/2020

Actual: 27/02/2020

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### Data analysis start date

Planned: 30/06/2020

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### Date of final study report

Planned: 30/07/2020

## Sources of funding

- Other
- Pharmaceutical company and other private sector

## More details on funding

Lundbeck Foundation, University of Southern Denmark

## Study protocol

[EUPAS protocol.pdf](#) (873.33 KB)

## Regulatory

**Was the study required by a regulatory body?**

Yes

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**Is the study required by a Risk Management Plan (RMP)?**

Not applicable

## Methodological aspects

### Study type

### Study type list

**Study type:**

Non-interventional study

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**Scope of the study:**

Assessment of risk minimisation measure implementation or effectiveness

**Main study objective:**

To study the risk of severe outcomes in patients with SARS-COV-2 infection, comparing those with a recent history of exposure to immunosuppressant medications to patients without a recent history of exposure.

## Study Design

**Non-interventional study design**

Case-control

Cohort

## Study drug and medical condition

**Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical (ATC) code**

(H02AB) Glucocorticoids

Glucocorticoids

(L01XC02) rituximab

rituximab

(L04AA) Selective immunosuppressants

Selective immunosuppressants

(L04AB) Tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNF-alpha) inhibitors

Tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNF-alpha) inhibitors

(L04AC) Interleukin inhibitors

Interleukin inhibitors

(L04AD) Calcineurin inhibitors

Calcineurin inhibitors  
(L04AX) Other immunosuppressants  
Other immunosuppressants  
(P01BA01) chloroquine  
chloroquine  
(P01BA02) hydroxychloroquine  
hydroxychloroquine

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### **Medical condition to be studied**

SARS-CoV-2 test positive

## Population studied

### **Age groups**

Adults (18 to < 46 years)  
Adults (46 to < 65 years)  
Adults (65 to < 75 years)  
Adults (75 to < 85 years)  
Adults (85 years and over)

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### **Special population of interest**

Hepatic impaired  
Immunocompromised  
Pregnant women  
Renal impaired

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### **Estimated number of subjects**

12675

## Study design details

## Outcomes

Death registered in the Danish register of Causes of Death within 30 days following a the first positive SARS-CoV-2 test registered in the Danish Microbiology Database. Hospital admission and intensive care unit admission (each event separately) registered in the Danish National Patient Register within 30 days following a the first positive SARS-CoV-2 test.

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## Data analysis plan

Risk ratio estimated by log-linear binomial regression.

## Data management

### ENCePP Seal

The use of the ENCePP Seal has been discontinued since February 2025. The ENCePP Seal fields are retained in the display mode for transparency but are no longer maintained.

## Data sources

### Data source(s)

Danish registries (access/analysis)

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### Data source(s), other

Danish Registries (access/analysis)

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### Data sources (types)

Administrative healthcare records (e.g., claims)

Drug dispensing/prescription data

## Use of a Common Data Model (CDM)

### CDM mapping

No

## Data quality specifications

### Check conformance

Unknown

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### Check completeness

Unknown

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### Check stability

Unknown

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### Check logical consistency

Unknown

## Data characterisation

### Data characterisation conducted

No