



Due to the current COVID-19 situation, we have suspended the UMOD Study recruitment to ensure patient safety. We are adhering to the Government and NHS guidelines and will contact you at a future date to continue the UMOD Study when it is safe to do so. Please continue with your usual prescribed antihypertensive medication from your GP.

You may be aware of some news coverage about COVID-19 and the use of certain types of high blood pressure medications. These medications, ACE Inhibitors (usually ending in -pril) and Angiotensin Receptor Blockers (usually ending in -sartan), are commonly used in the UK for managing high blood pressure. They are very effective medicines and most people tolerate them well. There has been some speculation that these medicines might increase susceptibility to coronavirus infection. It has also been suggested that these drugs could reduce the risk of serious lung disease following infection. There is no clear-cut evidence to support either of these possibilities.

Current guidance from the European Hypertension Society and the British and Irish Hypertension Society recommends that patients do NOT change their treatment unless recommended to by their doctor (for example if they are in hospital and are severely unwell). **Please do not change your blood pressure medications unless advised to do so by your doctor.**

If you have any concerns regarding COVID-19 generally, please follow the NHS advice via the following link: <https://www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus>

If you want to discuss any aspects of the UMOD Study or your participation, you can contact us at email: info@memo.dundee.ac.uk. Please note, our staff are now working remotely, and some are involved in frontline care. We are answering emails, but it may take us a little longer than usual to reply.

We value your understanding and cooperation during this time. Your contribution to the study is greatly appreciated.

Best Regards

The UMOD Study Team