

Ivermectin to Prevent/Treat COVID-19 Study Retracted Amid Ethical Concerns

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, several already existing medications have been investigated for the possibility of "repurposing" to offer promise of prevention or reduced morbidity and mortality from the SARS-CoV-2 virus. One such drug making claims that it could have significant impact on the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic is **Ivermectin**. Sold in the United States under the brand name of **STROMEKTOL**, Ivermectin is an antiparasitic drug that is FDA-approved for the treatment of parasites and is not approved for the treatment of any viral infection, including SARS-CoV2.

This week, a large [Egyptian study](#) authored by Ahmed Elgazzar, et al and published by Research Square claiming that the drug offered possible prophylaxis and treatment for COVID-19 has been retracted after evidence of both plagiarism and serious anomalies in the dataset associated with the study was presented. The study was one of the largest Ivermectin trials in the world and had recently been included in two meta-analyses that received much attention for their positive results. The Elgazzar study is no longer available online, but other publications have cited its main findings can still be found. The raw data is available for purchase online.

"Efficacy and Safety of Ivermectin for Treatment and prophylaxis of COVID-19 Pandemic" is #51 on an [internet-based listing](#) of published COVID-19 related studies that have been retracted.

Currently, the [US Food and Drug Administration](#) (FDA) and [European Medicines Agency](#) (EMA) advise against the use of Ivermectin for prophylaxis and treatment of COVID-19. The World Health Organization (WHO) only recommends its use [within the context of clinical trials](#). Please note that Ivermectin is not recommended in lieu of COVID-19 vaccination.

If you have any questions regarding the recent retraction of the Ivermectin study or other COVID-19 related topics, please call our Practice Resource Department at (877) 444-0484 ext.7466 to speak with a member of our team or visit the [COVID-19 Resource Center](#) on our website.

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