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EXCERPTED FROM:



Unproven Therapies for COVID-19

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Ribavirin and **interferon**

Recommendation:

Strongly recommend against use of ribavirin and/or **interferon for risk of harm.**

Human Data:

There are no known clinical trials evaluating the efficacy and safety of ribavirin and/or interferon in COVID-19.

A multicenter observational study in 349 critically ill patients with MERS compared ribavirin and interferon to controls who did not receive either therapy (Arabi 2019). **Unadjusted 90-day mortality rates were higher in the treatment group (73.6%) versus controls (61.5%)** $p = 0.02$. The adjusted analysis showed no difference between the two groups. Additionally, ribavirin and interferon treatment was not associated with more rapid viral clearance.

http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Professionals-Site/Documents/Guidelines_Unproven_Therapies_COVID-19.pdf