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Editorials

Response to the emerging novel coronavirus outbreak

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Rapid Response:

Use of angiotensin receptor blockers such as Telmisartan, Losartsan in nCoV Wuhan Corona Virus infections – Novel mode of treatment

Against the backdrop of the rapid spread of novel corona virus infection from Wuhan, China, to large areas globally and that besides supportive management, no novel modalities of treatment have been offered, we suggest the use of angiotensin II receptor blockers as a treatment for this infection.

Yushun Wan, Jian Shang et al [1] have analysed the potential receptor usage by 2019- nCoV based on the knowledge on sequencing of SARS- CoV. They have found that the sequence of 2019 nCoV receptor binding motif that directly contacts ACE2 (receptor Angiotensin converting enzyme 2) is similar to that of SARS–CoV & suggest that 2019-nCoV (Wuhan) uses ACE2 as its receptor. Their structural analysis predicted that the Wuhan Corona Virus uses ACE2 as its host receptor. They have further stated that a single mutation significantly enhances the ability of nCoV (Wuhan) to bind with human ACE2.

Based on this, we hypothesize the use of angiotensin II receptor blockers (ARB) available for clinical use can be

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M Phadke [1], S Saunik [2]

[1] Sr. Advisor, N.H.M., Govt. of Mah. & UNICEF, Ex-Vice Chancellor, Maharashtra Uni. Health Sciences, Mah., India

[2] Addl. Chief Secretary, Govt. Maharashtra, Mumbai, India, Takemi fellow, T.H.C. School of Pub. Health, Harvard University, USA

We declare no conflict of interest.

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1. Yushun Wan, Jian Shang, Rachel Graham, Ralph S Baric, Fang Li. Receptor recognition by novel coronavirus from Wuhan: an analysis based on decade-long structural studies of SARS. Journal of Virology, 2020; DOI: 10.1128/JVI.00127-20.
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M. A. Phadke
Prof. Dr.
S Saunik
Mumbai, India

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