



## Fluvoxamine - A Potential New Drug to Treat Covid-19 in Early Stage

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Fluvoxamine [1], a commonly prescribed drug to treat depression and Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) has been found to be effective in COVID-19 in early stage - within 7 days of developing symptoms.

Fluvoxamine tablet 100 mg BID for 10 days in early stage of the COVID-19 has been found to reduce the need of extended emergency room observation, hospitalization, ICU admission and ventilator.

Fluvoxamine is a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) and a Sigma-1 receptor (S1R) agonist, an essential inhibitor of cytokine production.

Fluvoxamine has both anti-inflammatory and possibly antiviral effects. Fluvoxamine reduces the level of cytokines which are involved in inflammation.

It is conceivable that other SSRI like Zoloft, Prozac, Lexapro might also work as a treatment in early stage of COVID-19. More studies are needed to verify that.

### Bibliography

1. Hashimoto Y, *et al.* "Old Drug Fluvoxamine, new hope for COVID-19". *Archives of Psychiatry and Clinical Neuroscience* (2021): 1-3.

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