

# New COVID-19 info for gastroenterologists and patients

March 18 2020

---



Credit: CC0 Public Domain

A paper published today in *Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology* by clinicians at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai outlines key information gastroenterologists and patients with chronic digestive

conditions need to know about COVID-19, or coronavirus.

Coronavirus is of particular concern for [patients](#) with [inflammatory bowel disease](#) (IBD) who may take immunosuppression drugs. The paper, published in a journal of the American Gastroenterological Association, provides clear guidance:

Patients on immunosuppression drugs for IBD should continue taking their medications. The risk of disease flare far outweighs the chance of contracting coronavirus. These patients should also follow CDC guidelines for at-risk groups: avoid crowds and limit travel.

"This is a rapidly evolving area with new information emerging on a daily basis," says Ryan Ungaro, MD, MS, assistant professor of medicine at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. "While COVID-19 is a significant global public health concern, it is important to keep its risks in perspective and stay up-to-date on current research and recommendations in order to provide our patients with the most accurate advice."

**More information:** Ryan C. Ungaro et al, What Should Gastroenterologists and Patients Know About COVID-19?, *Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology* (2020). [DOI: 10.1016/j.cgh.2020.03.020](#)

Provided by American Gastroenterological Association

Citation: New COVID-19 info for gastroenterologists and patients (2020, March 18) retrieved 25 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-03-covid-info-gastroenterologists-patients.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.