

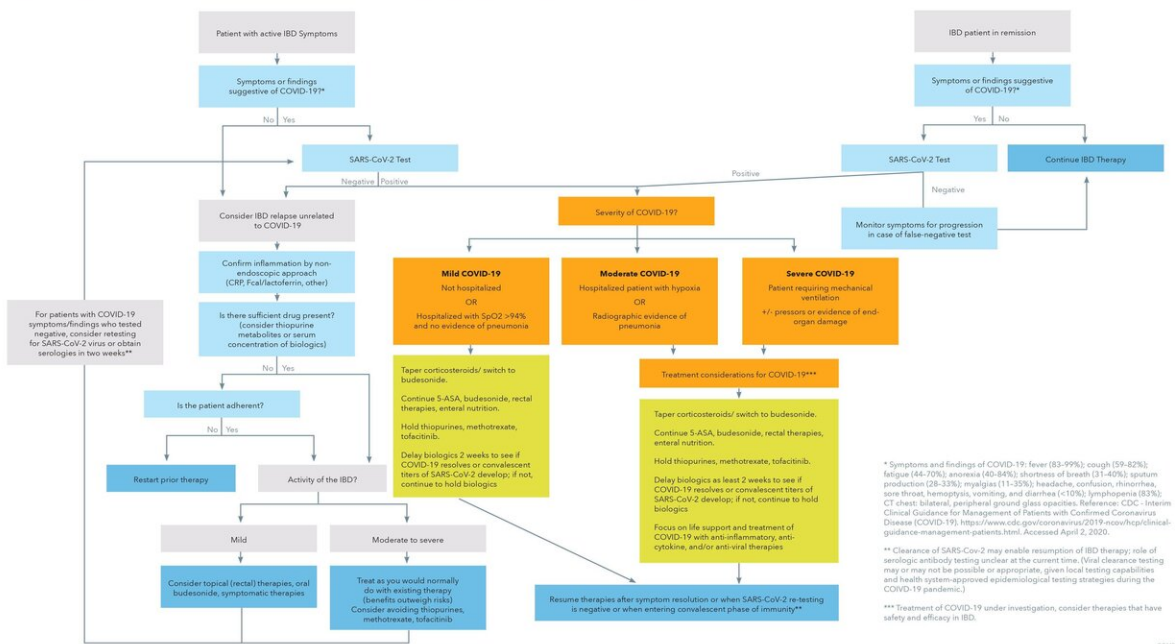
# AGA releases official guidance for patients with IBD during the COVID-19 pandemic

April 11 2020

## Management of Patients with IBD during the COVID-19 Pandemic



Source: Rubin DT, Feuerstein JD, Wang AY, Cohen RD. AGA Clinical Practice Update on Management of Inflammatory Bowel Disease During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Expert Commentary. Gastroenterology (2020)



Management of Patients with IBD during the COVID-19 Pandemic Credit: American Gastroenterology Association

Today, the American Gastroenterological Association (AGA) published new COVID-19 guidance for gastroenterologists treating patients with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD): [AGA Clinical Practice Update on](#)

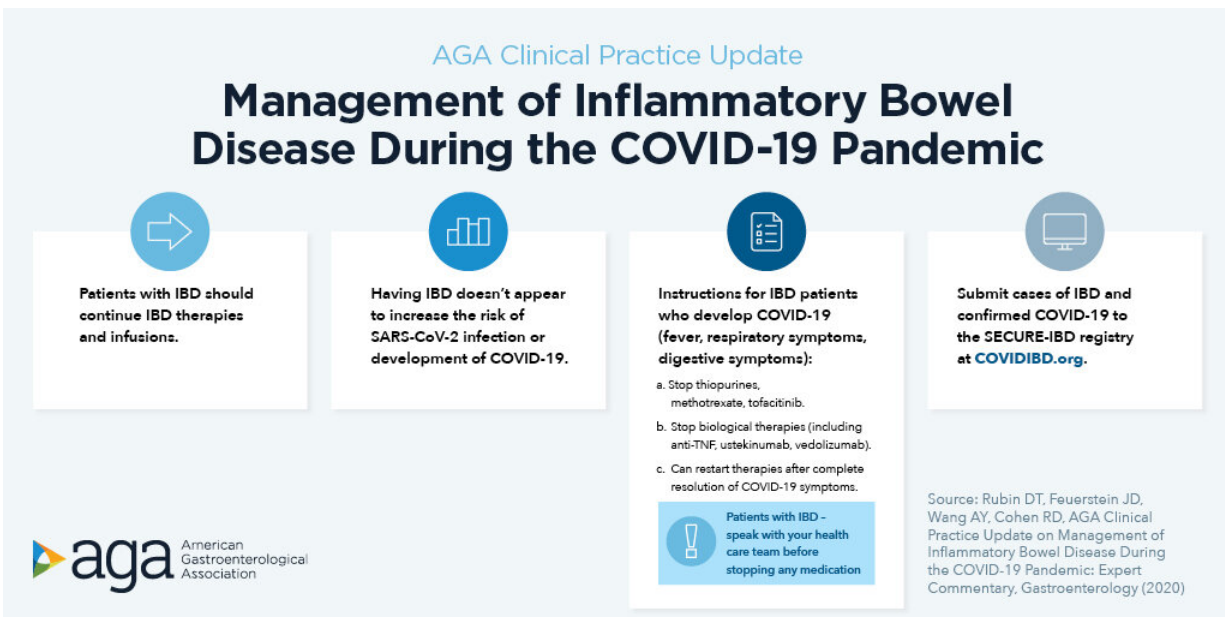
## [Management of Inflammatory Bowel Disease During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Expert Commentary.](#)

While the COVID-19 pandemic is a global health emergency, patients with IBD have particular concerns for their risk for infection and management of their medical therapies. This clinical practice update incorporates the emerging understanding of COVID-19 and summarizes available guidance for patients with IBD and the providers who take care of them.

Recommendations for gastroenterologists & their patients who have IBD:





1. During this pandemic, patients with IBD should continue IBD therapies including scheduled infusions.
2. Having IBD does not appear to increase the risk of SARS-CoV-2 infection or the development of COVID-19.
3. Instructions for [patients](#) with IBD who develop COVID-19 (fever, respiratory symptoms, digestive symptoms, etc.):
  - a. Stop thiopurines, methotrexate, tofacitinib.
  - b. Stop biological therapies (including anti-TNF, ustekinumab, vedolizumab).
  - c. Can restart therapies after complete resolution of COVID-19 symptoms. Patients should  
  
always speak with their health care team before stopping any medication.


4. Doctors should submit cases of IBD and confirmed COVID-19 to the SECURE-IBD registry at COVIDIBD.org.




AGA Clinical Practice Update

## Management of Inflammatory Bowel Disease During the COVID-19 Pandemic

-  Patients with IBD should continue IBD therapies and infusions.
-  Having IBD doesn't appear to increase the risk of SARS-CoV-2 infection or development of COVID-19.
-  Instructions for IBD patients who develop COVID-19 (fever, respiratory symptoms, digestive symptoms):
  - Stop thiopurines, methotrexate, tofacitinib.
  - Stop biological therapies (including anti-TNF, ustekinumab, vedolizumab).
  - Can restart therapies after complete resolution of COVID-19 symptoms.
-  Submit cases of IBD and confirmed COVID-19 to the SECURE-IBD registry at [COVIDIBD.org](https://COVIDIBD.org).

 American Gastroenterological Association

 Patients with IBD - speak with your health care team before stopping any medication

Source: Rubin DT, Feuerstein JD, Wang AY, Cohen RD, AGA Clinical Practice Update on Management of Inflammatory Bowel Disease During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Expert Commentary, *Gastroenterology* (2020)

Management of IBD During the COVID-19 Pandemic. Credit: American Gastroenterology Association

**More information:** David T. Rubin et al, AGA Clinical Practice Update on Management of Inflammatory Bowel Disease During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Expert Commentary, *Gastroenterology* (2020). [DOI: 10.1053/j.gastro.2020.04.012](https://doi.org/10.1053/j.gastro.2020.04.012)

Provided by American Gastroenterological Association

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