

Inhaled nitric oxide tied to improved P/F ratio in COVID-19 with ARDS

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Inhaled nitric oxide (iNO) is associated with improvement in the mean

partial pressure of oxygen (PaO_2)/fraction of inspired oxygen (FiO_2) ratio (P/F ratio) among patients hospitalized with COVID-19 and mild-to-moderate acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), according to a study published online April 11 in *Drugs in Context*.

Steven H. Abman, M.D., from the University of Colorado Anschutz School of Medicine and Children's Hospital Colorado in Aurora, and colleagues conducted a retrospective medical chart review study that included patients who were aged 18 years or older with mild-to-moderate ARDS who received iNO for ≥ 24 hours continuously during hospitalization for COVID-19. The analysis included 37 patients at six sites.

The researchers observed an increase in P/F ratio from 136.7 at baseline to 140.3 and 151.8, respectively, at 48 and 72 hours after iNO initiation. There was a 62 percent response rate (23 patients). No patient experienced adverse events during hospitalization, including methemoglobinemia, airway injury, or worsening [pulmonary edema](#) associated with iNO. Twenty of the [patients](#) (54.0 percent) improved or remained stable according to the physician-rated Clinical Global Impression-Improvement scale score at discharge.

"This study provides additional evidence supporting a favorable benefit-risk profile for iNO in the treatment of COVID-19," the authors write. "Future randomized, placebo-controlled studies are needed to determine its potential efficacy and place in therapy."

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More information: Steven H Abman et al, Real-world use of inhaled nitric oxide therapy in patients with COVID-19 and mild-to-moderate

acute respiratory distress syndrome, *Drugs in Context* (2022). DOI: [10.7573/dic.2022-1-4](https://doi.org/10.7573/dic.2022-1-4)

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