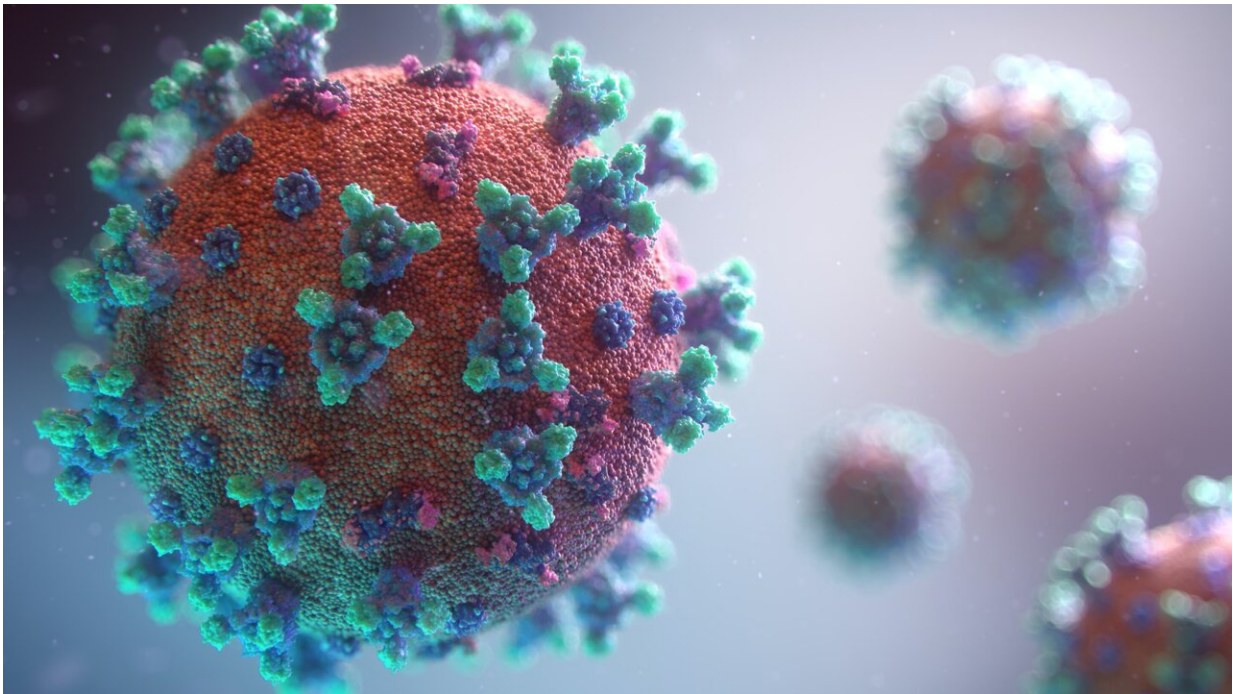


# Study finds no benefit to taking fluticasone furoate for COVID-19 symptoms

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A study led by the Duke Clinical Research Institute (DCRI) in partnership with Vanderbilt University found no symptomatic or clinical benefit to taking fluticasone furoate for the treatment of mild-to-moderate COVID-19 symptoms.

"There was no evidence of improvement in time to recovery or reduction

in hospitalizations in participants who took fluticasone furoate versus those who took a placebo," said Adrian Hernandez, M.D., the study's administrative principal investigator and executive director of the DCRI.

Findings appear on *medRxiv*, a pre-publication server, and have been submitted to a peer-reviewed journal.

ACTIV-6—"The Randomized Trial to Evaluate Efficacy of Repurposed Medications"—is a nationwide double-blind study that has nearly 5,000 participants. The trial continues to enroll with plans to include thousands of participants from across the United States to evaluate the potential benefits for treating mild-to-moderate COVID-19 with repurposed medications.

Repurposed medications are those already approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for other medical indications. Fluticasone furoate is one of three FDA-approved repurposed medications currently being tested in ACTIV-6.

Fluticasone furoate is an orally inhaled corticosteroid indicated for once-daily maintenance treatment of asthma as prophylactic therapy in patients aged 5 years and older. It is not approved by the FDA to treat COVID-19 and should only be taken as prescribed or as part of a clinical trial. Fluticasone furoate was chosen for this study because inhaled corticosteroids had shown potential for treating COVID-19 in the outpatient setting.

The fluticasone furoate arm of the study opened in June 2021 and enrolled 1,127 participants across the United States in eight months. During the study, participants either took a dose of 200 mcg per day of fluticasone or used a matching placebo inhaler for 14 days.

"No safety concerns were identified in this arm of the study, confirming

that fluticasone furoate is safe to take as prescribed per the FDA for the treatment of asthma or other approved conditions," said Susanna Naggie, M.D., the DCRI principal investigator overseeing the study's clinical coordinating center. "ACTIV-6 continues to enroll into other [medication](#) arms and may add additional arms as the study progresses."

**More information:** Susanna Naggie, Inhaled Fluticasone for Outpatient Treatment of Covid-19: A Decentralized, Placebo-controlled, Randomized, Platform Clinical Trial, *medRxiv* (2022). [DOI: 10.1101/2022.07.12.22277548](https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.07.12.22277548)

Provided by Duke Clinical Research Institute

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