

# Coronavirus: Treating the Pregnant Patient with COVID-19

5<sup>th</sup> May 2020

## Pharmacology & Therapeutics in COVID-19



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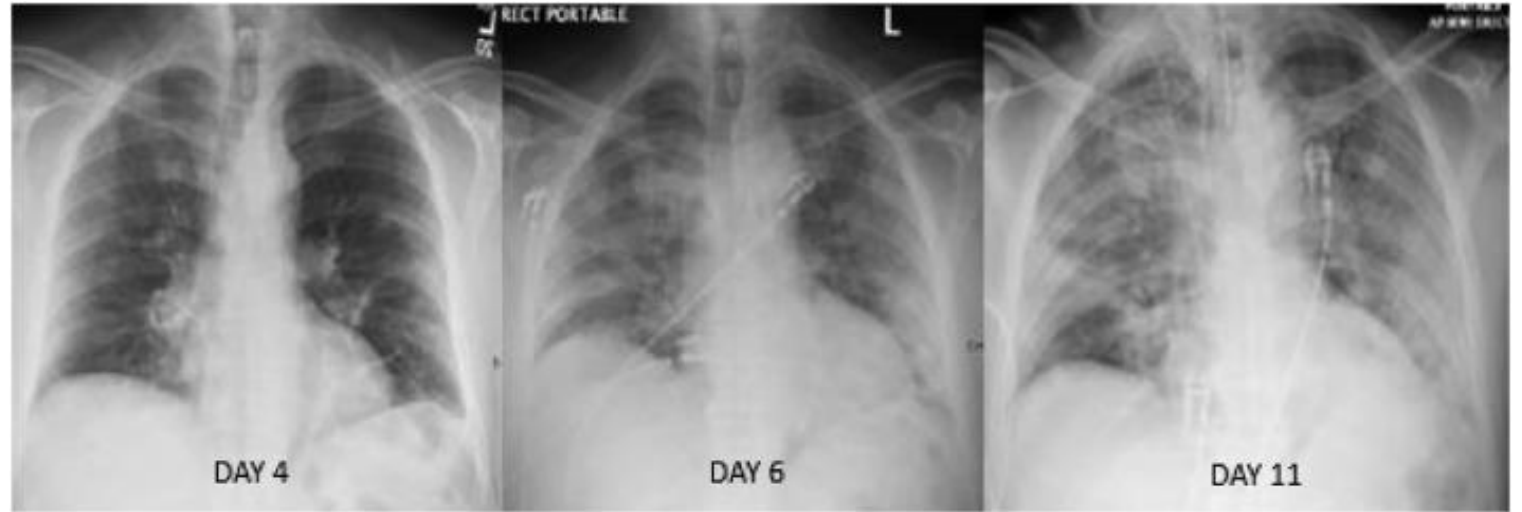


University College London Hospitals   
NHS Foundation Trust



# Clinical Progression of COVID-19

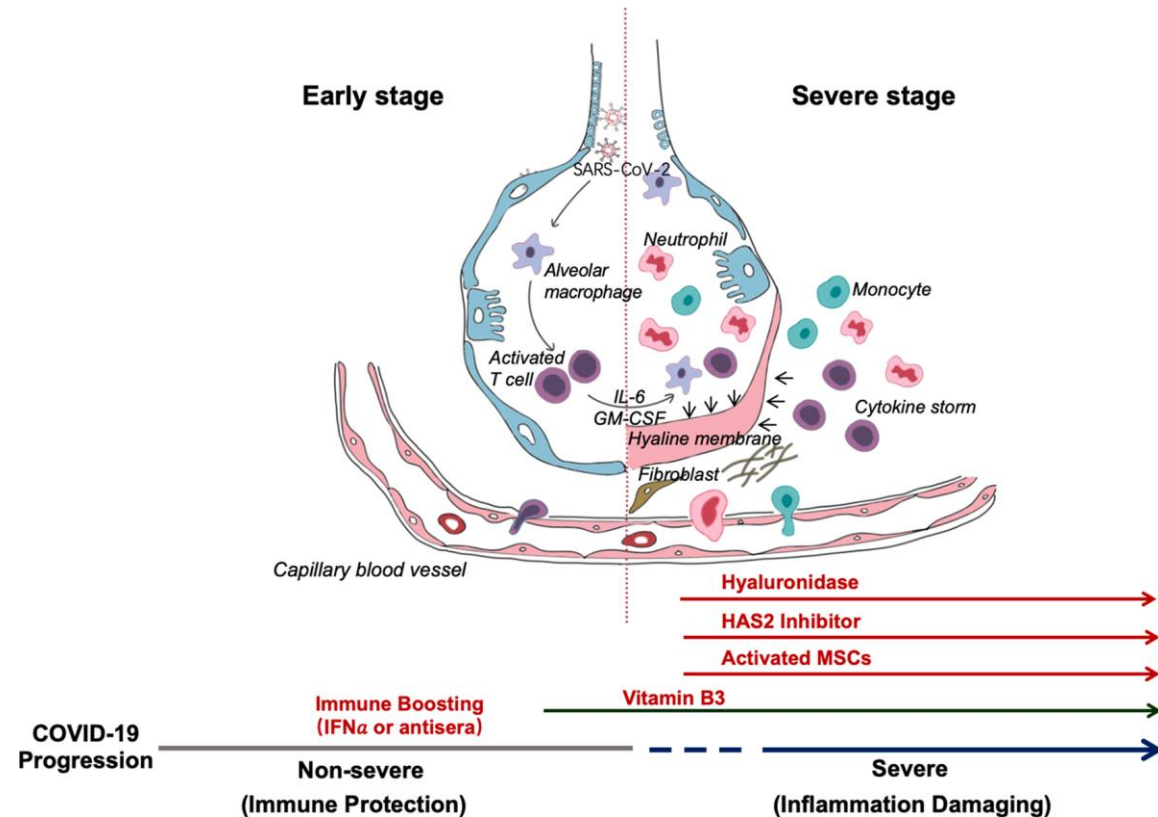
Jacobi A et al Clin Imaging 2020 64; 35-42



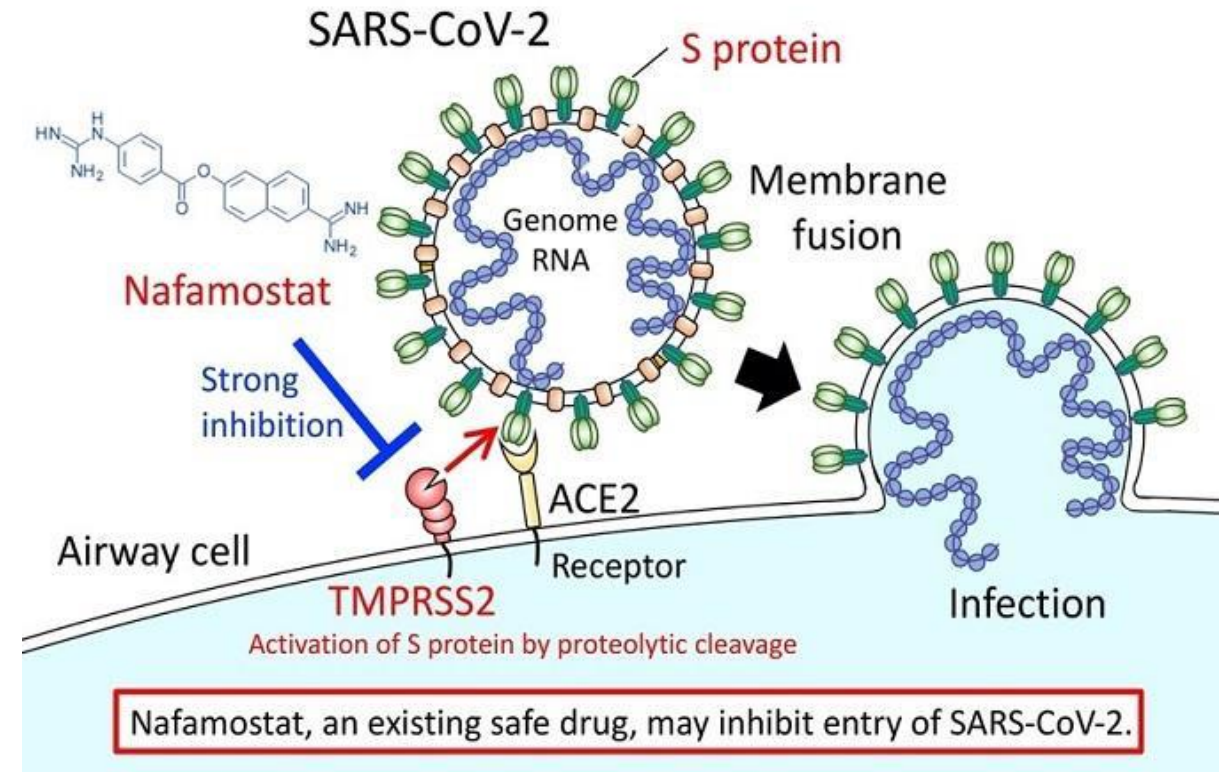
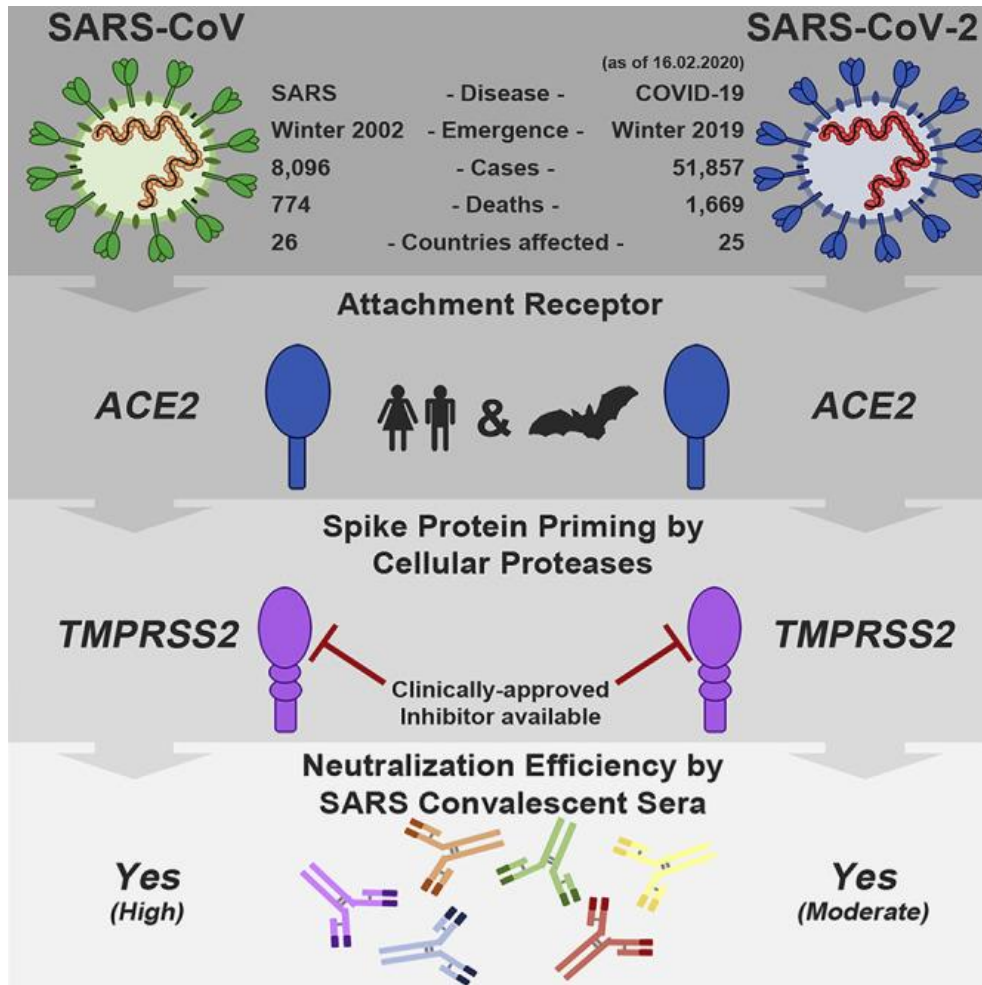
Pregnant women appear to be at similar risk from COVID-19 as non-pregnant women

Chen et al NEJM  
DOI: 10.1056/NEJMc2009226

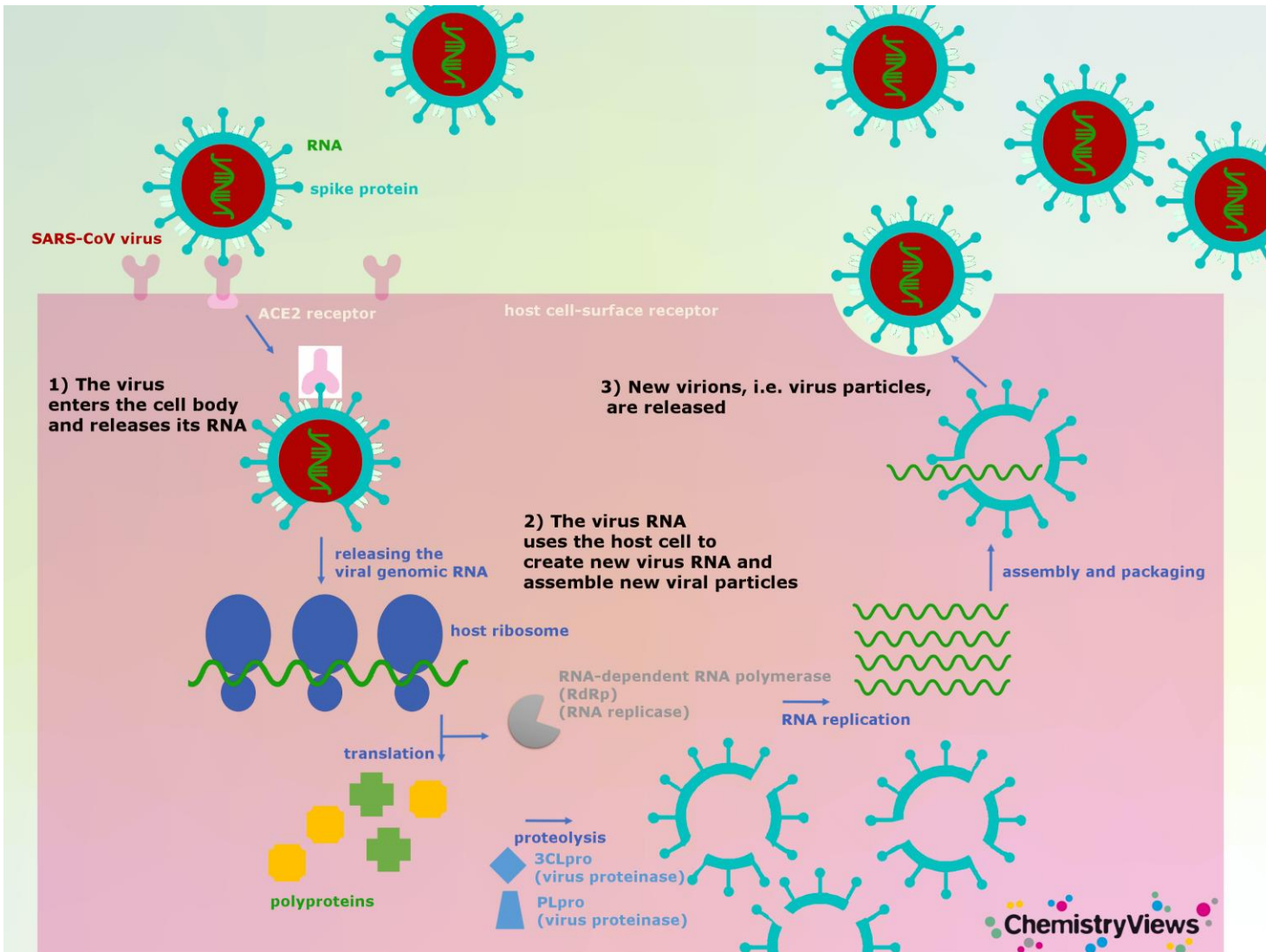
Shi Y et al Cell death and Differentiation 2020; 27: 1451-54



SARS-CoV-2 enters the host cell via ACE2 receptor and serine protease TMPRSS2 and can be blocked by protease inhibitors



# Coronavirus Entering and Replicating in a Host Cell



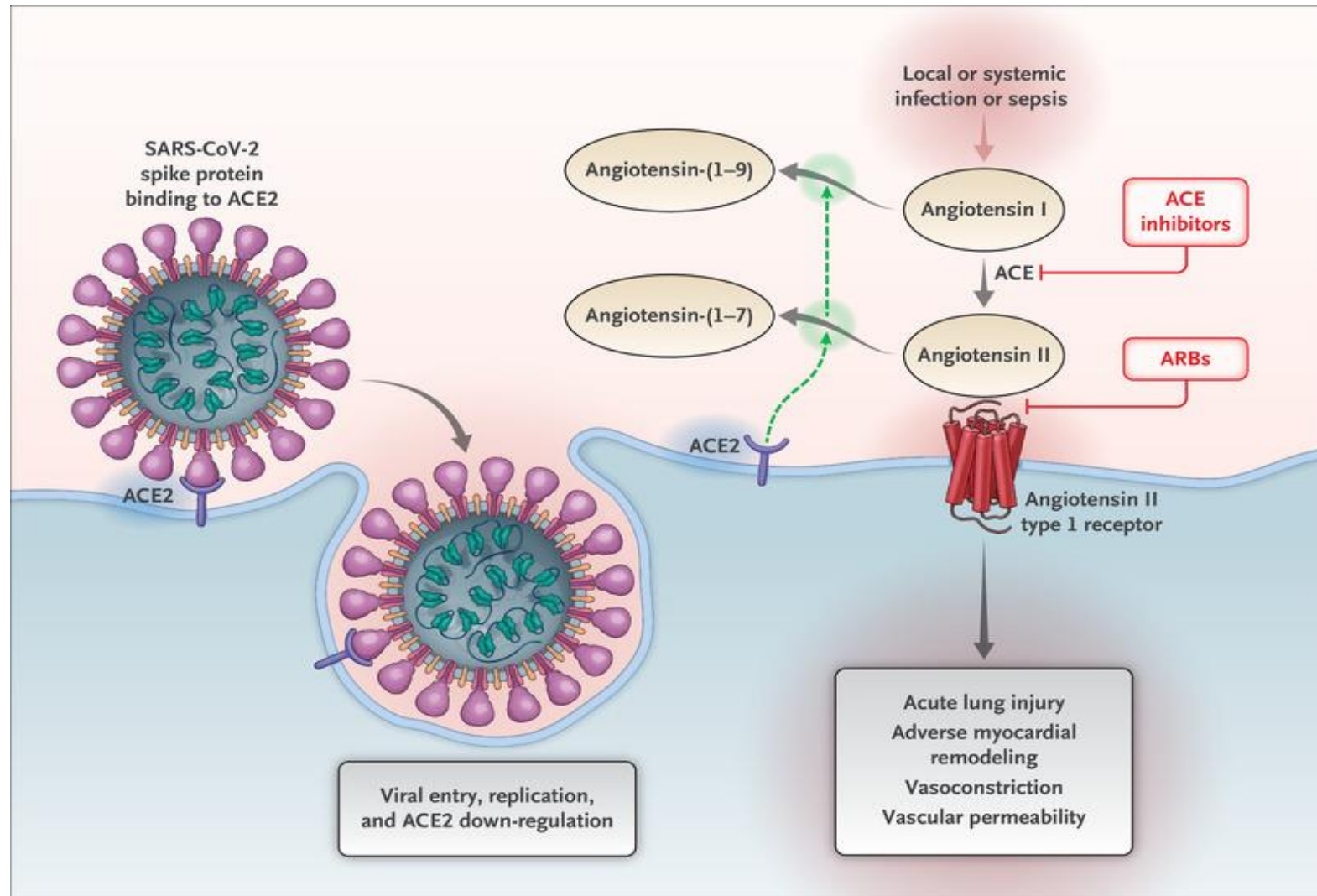
## Symptoms

Fever  
Dry Cough  
Fatigue

*Then,*

Dyspnoea  
Sputum  
Pneumonia  
Diarrhoea

# Renin-Angiotensin-Aldosterone System Inhibitors in Patients with COVID-19

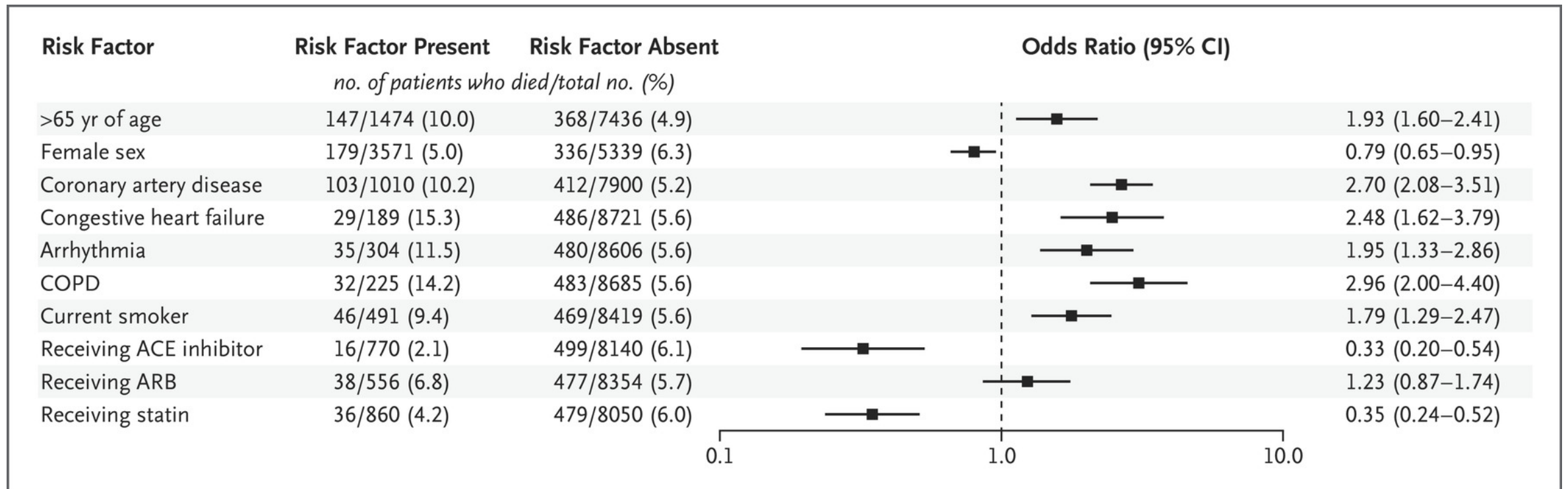


Vaduganathan M  
NEJM April 23, 2020

# Independent Predictors of In-Hospital Death

(Multivariable Logistic-Regression Analysis)

8910 Covid-19 patients: 515 died (5.8%) and 8395 survived



# The RECOVERY Trial

(Randomised Evaluation of COVID-19 Therapy)

University of Oxford

The RECOVERY Trial is testing the following drugs against COVID-19:

1. Lopinavir-Ritonavir (used to treat HIV)
2. Low-dose Dexamethasone
3. Hydroxychloroquine (related to an anti-malarial drug)
4. Azithromycin (a commonly used antibiotic)
5. **Tocilizumab** (anti-IL-6 monoclonal, given by injection, Inflammatory Arthritis)

Data is reviewed regularly

Promising new drugs will be added to the trial

# Remdesivir: antiviral used against Ebola

- April 29 2020:
- Adaptive COVID-19 Treatment Trial (ACTT); NIH Allergy Infectious Diseases
- 1063 patients with advanced COVID19 and lung involvement were randomised to daily Remdesivir for 10 days or placebo.
- Those who received Remdesivir had a 31% faster time to recovery ( $p < 0.001$ ) 11 days v 15 days compared with those who received placebo
- Remdesivir also associated with improved mortality 8.0% v 11.6% ( $p = 0.059$ )
- Gilead Sciences subsequently showed, **a 5-day course achieved similar improvement in clinical status as a 10-day course**



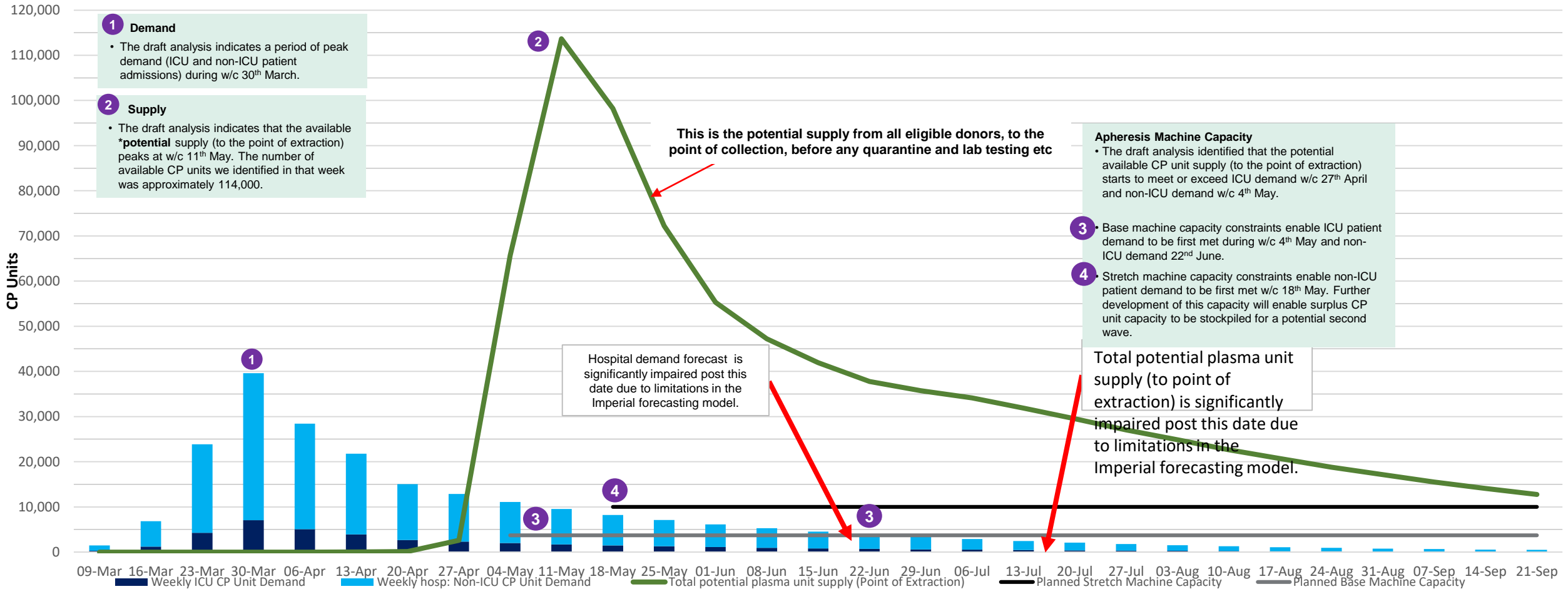
# Convalescent Plasma Therapy

- Passive Immunisation Therapy: Blood drawn from people recovered from COVID19 and those with a high titre of neutralizing
- NHS Blood and Transplant Service is recruiting people who have recovered from COVID19 (no sooner than 28 days after recovery)
- Plasma apheresis takes 45 minutes (healthy, non-pregnant donors).
- Plasma will be given to treat patients on intensive care units, including pregnant women
- Rajendran et al: Reviewed 5 observational studies of convalescent plasma (4 from China) with 27 patients. It is safe, patients do well, but not controlled
- Trial in Oxford, and REMAP-CAP

# 15<sup>th</sup> April – Model Output, initial refresh

Key assumptions 95% sufficient titre, latest Imperial infection rates, 28 days from recovery to donation, 2% of infections hospitalised, 14% of hospitalised require ICU, ongoing lockdown, regional supply/capacity aligned, sufficient testing / manufacturing capacity is available

Subject to change as data is refreshed, additional actuals are included and assumptions amended



# What are pharmaceutical Companies doing to tackle COVID-19?

- Over 20 companies have potential medicines, at least 4 in late phase trials
- Over 50 projects working on vaccines
- **BUT**, only 1:10 vaccine developments make it through regulatory approval
- **If one or two of the first vaccines enter development it will be 12-18 months before a vaccine is widely available!**

# Therapeutic treatment of COVID-19 during pregnancy

- **Supportive measures**
- Oxygen support; nasal, mask, CPAP, ventilation
- IV Fluid,
- Thromboprophylaxis
- Antibiotics if likely secondary bacterial infection
- Pregnant women can be entered into clinical trials e.g RECOVERY Trial
- Consideration for early childbirth if severe respiratory distress requiring ventilation