

Wednesday 3rd June 2020

Flarin to be trialled in COVID-19 patients

Infirst Limited, a privately-owned UK healthcare company focused on improving existing medicines, today confirms that its flagship product Flarin is to be tested as a treatment for certain symptoms of hospitalised COVID-19 patients.

A press release issued on 2nd June by King's College London:

<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/news/trial-testing-a-unique-formulation-of-ibuprofen-to-treat-covid-19-launches>

announced the launch of the LIBERATE trial, a pioneering collaboration between London's Guy's & St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, King's College London and the pharmaceutical organisation the SEEK Group.

The study aims to reduce acute respiratory failure with COVID-19, using "a unique formulation of ibuprofen, that is already licensed for use in the UK, and is widely used for other conditions."

Infirst Limited confirms that the drug in question is Flarin, a unique and patent protected lipid formulated ibuprofen which at a dose of 1200 mg/day has shown to be as effective as 2400mg/day of standard liquid ibuprofen capsules in patients with acute joint pain ¹. Flarin's unique lipid formulation also helps to shield the stomach from damage ².

In pre-clinical pulmonary inflammation models the Flarin formulation of lipid ibuprofen was shown to be effective in preventing cytokine storm (an over-reaction of the body's immune system), which can lead to hyper-inflammatory conditions such as Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS). This preventative effect was not observed with standard ibuprofen.

The LIBERATE trial aims to confirm whether the effectiveness in humans matches with the results from the pre-clinical data.

“We are excited to see that the potential of Flarin to benefit patients with COVID-19 respiratory symptoms is being properly evaluated in a clinical trial,” said Andrew Macmillen, Managing Director of infirst Ltd. “We await with interest the results of the trial, which uses Flarin in a special dosage regimen in hospitalised patients under medical supervision. We remind patients not to use Flarin for any conditions other than those indicated on the pack and on the patient information leaflet”

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1 Bierma- Zeinstra SMA, Conaghan PG, Brew J et al. *Osteoarthr Cartil*: 2017 25; 12: 1942–1951 Open Access: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.joca.2017.09.002> Accessed at:

[http://www.oarsijournal.com/article/S1063-4584\(17\)31197-4/fulltext](http://www.oarsijournal.com/article/S1063-4584(17)31197-4/fulltext)

2 Data on file, infirst Limited.

www.flarin.co.uk

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/flarin/>