

Medicines Management FAQs – COVID19

Should I prescribe paracetamol during COVID19?

Paracetamol is currently in short supply caused by a sudden upsurge in demand. We are aware of pressure on GPs to prescribe paracetamol 'just in case' and for OTC conditions.

We have been assured that there is no manufacturing or supply issue with the tablets nationally so stocks will improve. There are some public messages planned that may help reduce the stockpiling.

Please use your clinical judgement. If patients are clinically unwell, paracetamol is the appropriate treatment and if the patient has none at home then until supplies are more stable prescribing or short term quantities may be considered.

There have also been reported difficulties in obtaining liquid paracetamol – more information in the [Medicines shortages / Supply problems document](#).