Reduced Mortality With Ondansetron Use in SARS-CoV2-Infected Inpatients

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- The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has led to a surge in clinical trials evaluating investigational and approved drugs.
- Retrospective cohort study of 10,741 patients testing positive for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2) infection within 3 days of admission to compare risk of 30-day all-cause mortality in patients receiving ondansetron.
- Administration of ondansetron was associated with an adjusted 45% reduction in 30-day all-cause mortality in hospitalized patients and a 48% reduction in ICU patients.
- Data also suggest that a reduction in ischemic cerebral infarctions and myocardial infarctions may play a significant role in this, through possible anti-inflammatory or antiviral effects of ondansetron.

Results suggest that ondansetron, a safe, widely available drug, could be used to decrease morbidity and mortality in at-risk populations.