Efficacy and safety of favipiravir, an oral RNA-dependent RNA polymerase inhibitor, in mild-to-moderate COVID-19: A randomized, comparative, open-label, multicenter, phase 3 clinical trial

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- This study assessed the efficacy and safety of favipiravir in adults with mild-to-moderate coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Indian population.
- Randomized, open-label, parallel-arm, multicenter, phase 3 trial, adults (18-75 years) with RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 and mild-to-moderate symptoms were randomized 1:1 to oral favipiravir (day 1: 1800 mg BID and days 2-14: 800 mg BID) plus standard supportive care (n = 75) versus supportive care alone i.e., control (n = 75).
- Median time to the cessation of viral shedding was 5 days versus 7 days and median time to clinical cure was 3 days versus 5 days for favipiravir and control, respectively.
- Early administration of oral favipiravir may reduce the duration of clinical signs and symptoms in patients with mild-to-moderate COVID-19, as demonstrated by the significantly decreased time to clinical cure.

Significant improvement in time to clinical cure suggests favipiravir may be beneficial in mild-to-moderate COVID-19.