March 13, 2020

Hypertension Canada’s Statement on:
Hypertension, ACE-Inhibitors and Angiotensin Receptor Blockers and COVID-19

Our expert network is examining reports emerging from the COVID-19 outbreak in China which provided preliminary evidence that hypertension may be associated with an increased risk of mortality in hospitalized COVID-19 patients, and growing reports that treatment with specific antihypertensive therapy, ACE inhibitors and angiotensin receptor blockers may also increase risk. Based on evidence available as of the date of this release:

• A high proportion of patients hospitalized with COVID-19 have high blood pressure (hypertension).
• However, there is no evidence that patients with hypertension or those treated with ARB or ACE inhibitor antihypertensive therapy are at higher risk of adverse outcomes from COVID-19 infection.
• We endorse patients with hypertension to continue with their current blood pressure treatment.

Dr. Nadia Khan, President
Hypertension Canada