You can’t always teach an old drug new tricks

About the writers

Dr. Paul Timbers is a physician and specialist in clinical pharmacology. He is also a former lead investigator in the Australian National Drug Textbook project, which is a national initiative to improve the quality and accessibility of information about medications. Dr. Timbers is also involved in research on the use of new drugs to treat diseases such as cancer and Alzheimer’s disease.

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ScienceTalk

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Results of WHO trial may be disappointing but it serves as a model for future studies

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The Covid-19 pandemic is expected to result in the treatment of thousands of patients worldwide. The pandemic has been more deadly, spread more quickly, and has affected more people than any other pandemic in recent memory. The pandemic has also been a source of much concern and anxiety, with many people wondering if they will get sick, how serious their illness will be, and whether they will be able to access the care they need.

One of the most important factors in the treatment of patients with Covid-19 is the use of antiviral drugs. Antiviral drugs work by inhibiting the replication of the virus, thereby preventing it from infecting new cells. There are several antiviral drugs that are currently approved for the treatment of Covid-19, including remdesivir and molnupiravir. These drugs have shown promise in preliminary studies.

However, it is important to note that not all antiviral drugs work the same way. Some drugs, such as remdesivir, work by inhibiting the enzyme that copies the viral genome, while others, such as molnupiravir, work by preventing the virus from making new copies of itself.

It is also important to note that antiviral drugs are not a cure-all for Covid-19. While they can help to reduce the severity and duration of the illness, they do not prevent infection. This means that patients should continue to take other measures to prevent the spread of the virus, such as wearing masks and maintaining physical distance.

In conclusion, while antiviral drugs can be an important tool in the treatment of Covid-19, it is important to use them in combination with other measures to prevent the spread of the virus. This will help to reduce the burden on the healthcare system and ultimately improve the health of patients.