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Can vitamin C fight coronavirus? Central VA begins treatment study on hospitalized veterans with COVID-19

**by: Keyris Manzanares****Posted: Apr 17, 2020 / 03:01 PM EDT / Updated: Apr 17, 2020 / 03:02 PM EDT**

RICHMOND, Va. (WRIC) — Doctors at the Central Virginia Veterans Affairs Health Care System started treating hospitalized veterans with high-doses of vitamin C this week.

The study tests high dose infusions of vitamin C through an IV over the course of four days, the VA said in a press release Friday afternoon. The goal is to minimize the

58°

“By giving this vitamin C infusion as soon as a patient requires oxygen, we hope to demonstrate this approach is safe, well-tolerated, and will reduce the number of ICU beds and ventilators needed,” Dr. Brian Davis said.

Davis and his team developed the study based on the research of Dr. Alpha Fowler at Virginia Commonwealth University.

“Patients with acute respiratory distress syndrome and systemic infection receiving high dose infusion of vitamin C had less severe organ dysfunction, spent less time on the ventilator and decreased stay in the intensive care unit,” Davis said. “Importantly, this resulted in improved survival.”

If you'd like more information about the study or Dr. Davis, reach out to VHARICPublicAffairs@va.gov

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