and ritonavir had little therapeutic benefit in patients

with COVID-19, but appeared more effective when used

in combination with other drugs, including ribavirin and

interferon beta-1b'\*\*'\*. The Randomized Evaluation of

COVID-19 Therapy (RECOVERY) trial, a national clin-

ical trial programme in the UK, has stopped treatment

with lopinavir and ritonavir as no significant beneficial

effect was observed in a randomized trial established in

March 2020 with a total of 1,596 patients'“°. Nevertheless,